CIRCULATION LAST WEEK
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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

THE HEROES OF TO-DAY.

We were told that men no longer fought
for glory, as of yore,
That the ancient love of country burned
in human hearts no more;
"In this age of subtle science, valor
counts for naught," they said;
"Heroes are no longer needed, and their
sturdy race is dead.
Science will decide the struggle—nations
will be conquered then,
Not by courage, but by cunning—with
machines, and not with men."
Yet when first the sound of battle, borne
upon the ocean breeze,
Drifted in from far Manila and from
Cuba's tropic seas,
We were taught that 'tis, as ever, men by
whom the fight is won,
Piling on their country's altar mighty
deeds of valor done.
Man's own courage fights his battles—
whether, armed with sword and
shield,
Lustily he lays about him, charging o'er
the bloody field,
Or, on steel-protected cruiser, telescope in
hand he stands,
Training engines of destruction on the
forts of hostile lands.
Hearts of oak and visions watchful—these
alone the day can save;
In some strange and subtle manner Fortune favors still the brave.
Though the sword of song and story
hangs neglected on the wall,
And the musket's clumsy hammer nevermore shall rise and fall,
We have men who, now and always, in a
righteous cause and high,
When their country goes to battle, for
their country dare to die—
Men of wise and prudent action, men of
mighty, matchless will;
And the Stars and Stripes are floating o'er
a land of heroes still!
—Youth's Companion.

MEN OF THE WEST.

We sent you o'er the sunlit sea,
Men of the West—
To carry peace and industry
To war's unrest.
No grateful homage found ye there,
Nor honor due;
A sullen land with threat'ning air
Admitted you.

Ye faltered not at burning sun
Nor fever's might,
Nor when ye found the task begun
A bitter fight.
Ye toiled amid a people rude
With patient zeal;
Nor lifted at ingratitude
Th' avenging steel.

A blighted land that could not see
The proffered light;
Nor comprehend that liberty
Of truth and right.
They struck the hand that was their hope
A cruel blow—
The hand that had not stooped to cope
With such a foe.

Ah! bravely then ye faced the blast,
And joyful bled;
And perished, fighting to the last,
Our gallant dead!
We cannot weep at such a death;
Nor toll the bell
While with a deep exultant breath
Our bosoms swell.

We trusted and were not deceived,
Men of the West;
Ye fought and died as ye had lived—
Your Nation's best.
And ye, who live to toll anew,
We trust as well
As those who, faithful, toiled with you,
And, faithful, fell.
—Charles C. Ballard.

VERSES TO BABY.

Eezes Mahmie's itta baybee boy,
An' Ooo, ee is so seet;
Da-da's ettle an' Mahmie's doy—
Ain's iz tootsie eeties?

Heah um izie—weenie inkle tozies—
Ooo um izie so nicie;
Doe haevah itta tootsie doze,
Tooties ike sma' itie micie.

Nowie tsingie—
Ooo sooey ole hossie, an'
Sooey ole mare, an'
Et ittatoitie doe bare, bare, bare.

(Translation.)
He's mamma's little baby boy,
And, oh! he is so sweet;
Daddy's pet and mamma's joy
Where's his tiny feet?

Here they are—wee pink toes;
Oh! they are so nice;
Go wherever the little foot goes—
Feet like small white mice.

Now mamma sing:
"Oh shoe the old horse,
And shoe the old mare,
And let the little colt go bare, bare, bare."

"Ugh!" is the baby's refrain,
And he nods his curly head;
So mamma "shoes the horse" again—
Then baby goes to bed.

Miscellany.

QUEER HIDING PLACE

The fancy for secret drawers and out-of-the-way hiding-places is a curious trait with many people. A Chicago electrician tells that while following up the wire of

FILLED WITH JEWELS AND WATCHES.

an electric bell in a north side house his search led him behind a door. Kneeling down he rested his hand on the wooden knob fastened in the wall to prevent the door handle from touching the plaster and was surprised to find that it yielded to his grasp. A slight pull disclosed the fact that it was the handle of a secret drawer which was almost filled with jewels, watches and money. Hearing an exclamation behind him he looked up to find the lady of the house bending over him, apparently horror-stricken. Without speaking he closed the drawer and resumed his search for the wire, and, though neither mentioned the incident, the lady kept her eyes on him until he finished his work and left the house.

As Censored.

"Henceforth you'll buy cigars
Through me," said Uncle Sam.
"Caramba!" roared the Spanish Don,
"And likewise ——! and ——!"
—Chicago Tribune.

The Untutored Savage.

Money's the root of all evil.
As the civilized person agrees;
It is only the savage who thinks he
May find the stuff growing on trees.
—Chicago News.

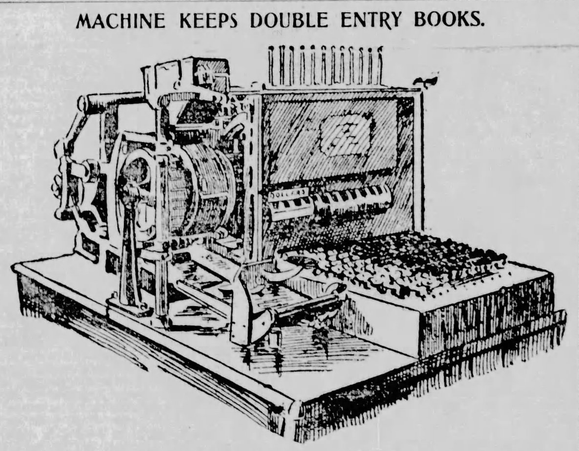
ALFRED TENNYSON LOVED CHILDREN.

When Tennyson was a young man living at home, he so attracted the children of the family that they would sit on his knee or cling about his feet while he told stories of his own invention. He would make himself a Colossus of Rhoades for the boys, the fun being to rush under the archway of his legs without receiving a whack from his open hand. The poet was devoted to his own children. The mother, not being strong enough to walk far, was drown in her garden carriage by her two boys, Hallam and Lionel, while the father himself pushed from behind. He would read to them while they were sitting together on a bank in a field, play football with them, teach them to shoot with bow and arrow, and go with them flower hunting. In rainy weather father and boys stayed indoors and played battledore and shuttlecock, a game of which Tennyson was particularly fond.

One of their amusements was the blowing of soap bubbles, and the poet-father would become excited over the "gorgeous colors and landscapes, and the planets breaking off from their suns, and the single star becoming a double star," all of which he saw in the bubbles. In the evenings he would help the boys to enact scenes from a familiar play, or superintend their charades, writing amusing prologues to help out the entertainment. "Make the lives of children as beautiful as possible," was one of the poet's favorite sayings. Another was, "A truthful man generally has all the virtues," and his chief anxiety was that the children should be strictly truthful. He insisted that they should be courteous to the poor; and his son records that "the severest punishment he ever gave me, though that was, it must be confessed, slight, was for some want of respect to one of our servants."

In the later years of the poet's life his grandchildren loved to romp with him, and enjoyed their rides, when he would fight them with newspapers, or play "pat-a-cake" with them. On one of his last walks, when he had passed the 83d year, he met the village school children and pointed his stick at them, barking like a dog to make them laugh.

MACHINE KEEPS DOUBLE ENTRY BOOKS.



The Union Dime Savings Bank's wonderful bookkeeping machine, now in daily operation in New York, promises to revolutionize methods of recording a large part of bank accounts. It is the invention of Leicester Allen and was designed by that genius in mechanics at the request of the bank's president, Charles E. Sprague. There are really three machines, one to keep a record of the deposits of men patrons, another for women depositors, and a third for keeping accounts of the drafts on the bank. The teller sits at a table with the apparatus at his right hand. The depositor's bank book is placed in the machine and the amount pulled forward from a keyboard of figures something like the keyboard of the typewriting machine. A lever is pressed, the mechanism buzzes, and the sum deposited is printed in the book and also on a tape in a box above the machine. Another cylinder is automatically set in motion and the new amount is added to the total of the bank's deposits since its foundation. It is practically impossible for the machine to err. If a mistake is made by the teller the mechanism refuses to work. At the end of any day's business a balance may be struck in a few minutes and the figures must always be correct. The machines are placed in a sealed glass case and is open to the view. By a simple glance at the totals the officials of the institution can tell just how the bank stands with its 70,000 depositors.

MUSICAL NOTES OF GOLD.

Enormous as are the sums which actors and singers earn on the stage in a single evening, they are completely eclipsed by the earnings of the same artists at private appearances in the houses of the rich, says London Tit-Bits.

If, for instance, it were possible for Mme. Patti or Mme. Melba to earn money for a whole year at the same rate as at a private musicale, they would each quality as a millionaire, while only singing for five hours a day and allowing themselves a complete holiday for 12 weeks out of the 52.

Mme. Melba, at a recent fashionable musicale in London, received 300 pounds for singing three songs. As the actual time of singing was only 20 minutes, it is clear that the gifted songstress was exchanging her "notes for gold" at the rate of 1,000 pounds an hour, or no less than 16 pounds 13s 4d every time the second hand of her watch completed one circuit. Compared with this revenue the incomes of the czar and shah, colossal as they are, sink into insignificance, for the czar's revenue for a minute is less than a 5-pound note; and the shah's, with his $6,000,000 a year, less than 12 pounds.

Lord Salisbury draws from the exchequer 3 pounds less in a day than Mme. Melba can mint with her voice in a single minute. In five minutes she can earn the yearly salary of many a city clerk; and in 100 hours the entire yearly income of the British cabinet.

In eight hours at this rate of gold and voice production, she can earn her weight in sovereigns; and in 1,000 hours her voice could place her among the world's millionaires. Our queen's entire revenue available for personal use is less than 200,000 pounds a year, an income which a queen of song could win for herself by singing four hours a day for a little over seven weeks.

Ignace Paderewski can mint sovereigns with almost equal rapidity with his dexterous fingers as Mmes. Melba or Patti with their voices. This "king of the piano" received no less than 500 pounds for playing recently at the house of one of our West End magnates. Assuming that he was at the piano for a full hour, which is probably in excess of fact, he was coining sovereigns at the rate of over eight a minute, and if he had been paid in gold for his entertainment, his pockets would have been weighed down with eight and three-quarters pounds of gold; while he might have walked from the drawing-room door to his cab on a line of sovereigns he had earned.

Young Joseph Hofmann appeared only once last year at a private house, but he was 200 pounds the richer for the evening's venture. A boy who can earn a 10-pound note in three minutes may regard the future with confidence.

It is a little curious to find that while Mme. Melba received 300 pounds for singing three songs, her payment for a full performance of an opera at Covent garden was 100 pounds less. When Mme. Sembrich sang recently before a New York club she was rewarded by a payment of 250 pounds, or, roughly, 10 pounds a minute. She considered the amount inadequate, however, and made it clear that she could not sing again under a much higher fee.

Mme. Calve was paid 200 pounds for singing at the house of a city magnate, and Mme. Nordica's fee for appearing in private is never less than 120 pounds. Even Yvette Guilbert, the pet of the Paris music halls, declines to sing in a private drawing room under 200 pounds, and Rejane has received 100 pounds for playing in a 20-minute comedy at the house of a millionaire.

The truth is that there is no magic equal to that of a beautiful voice for transmuting minutes into gold. It is no exaggeration to say that both Mme. Patti and Jean de Reszke have made over 1,000,000 pounds sterling by their singing, and have both known the rare delight of coining half a sovereign from every note of a song.

Ought to Hold Together.

"A combination of chewing gum manufacturers has been formed," remarked Mrs. Snaggs.

"That is a combination which ought to stick," added Mr. Snaggs.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Why She Rides Astride.

Mrs. H. P. Colgrove, in Country Gentleman:—You ask me to tell your readers why I ride astride. I answer, because a horse was made to be ridden in that way. Every reason that induces a man to ride astride is equally applicable to a woman. A man is no more of a biped than a woman. An advocate of the use of the side-saddle by men would be at once classed with those whose mental condition is inquired into by the courts. Why is it that merely a pair of trousers should make such a difference in the manner of riding a horse? If the side-saddle is best for rider and horse, why do not men wear skirts and use it? If it is not best for horse and rider, why should women be compelled by conventionality to use the less secure and comfortable seat?

The side-saddle was invented for a royal cripple. Prior to its invention women rode as men rode. A feminine member of a reigning house was so deformed that she could not use the ordinary saddle, and therefore the side-saddle was devised for her. The fashion thus set by royalty was, of course, followed, just as slavishly as women follow the fashions of to-day. The use of this awkward and insecure seat became fixed by custom, aided by the fashions in the attire of women. That the side-saddle is hard on both horse and rider has been understood from the first, but few dared to brave the fashion and ride in the sensible way. This was more the case because of a lack of a suitable costume for women to wear in the cross saddle. A woman may not wear trousers and escape ridicule. A bifurcated garment is necessary for the cross saddle. The advent of bloomers might have paved the way for the adoption of the cross saddle for women but for the fact that bloomers, while convenient for the purpose, are somewhat hideous. Their use on bicycles has largely been abandoned.

I ride astride because I have devised, after much experimentation, a costume that is suitable and at the same time becoming. It consists of a rather full divided skirt and a long divided coat. The bottom of the skirt is strapped under the foot and the coat is buttoned to the skirt. Hence he skirt cannot balloon out or blow aside and expose the foot and leg, as does the short skirt of the ordinary riding habit, nor is it the death trap the long-skirt habit is. When viewed from either side the skirts are so full as to give the appearance of a seat in the side-saddle. I have used this habit for more than two years and found it entirely satisfactory. Hundreds of similar habits are in use, and not one of the women who wear them would return to the side-saddle.

I ride astride because the seat in the side-saddle is cramped, uncomfortable, and dangerous in case of a fall. Physicians will testify to the evil results of this cramped position. The cross saddle is more secure and more comfortable. A woman can ride longer with less fatigue when seated astride. As to the horse, he is unquestionably more comfortable when the weight is balanced evenly on each side. The girths need not be so tight with the cross saddle, and the liability to sore backs is much less. The rider has a more secure seat, and hence the tendency to "ride the bridle" is much less. Every consideration of the comfort and safety of horse and rider demands that women should ride astride. Now the chief objection, the lack of a suitable costume, no longer exists, women are adopting this style of riding in numbers that would astonish the uninformed. Four women rode astride at the last Boston brose show, and at one riding school in that city seventy women are now using the cross saddle.

Many women use the ordinary man's saddle, but the two styles of cross saddles made especially for women are far preferable, and I always recommend them. To understand the popularity of the cross saddle in Chicago one need but to have witnessed the annual Equestrian Day parade the past two years. It is an innovation, of course, but it is founded on common sense, and the modern woman is little afraid of innovations based on sense. This style of riding should be adopted by every women and girl who rides in the country as a convenience, as well as by those who ride in cities as a recreation. If the women in cities set the fashion, surely the sensible women on the farm should not fear to follow.

How She Stopped Him.

"Come where my love lies dreaming,"
He started to sing, but she
Rushed over and cried to him:
"Pshaw!
You'll have to let up on your screaming!
I like it all right, but you see
I'm afraid it'll waken paw."
—Cleveland Leader.

MAKING A PASSE-PARTOUT

The Old, Favorite Methods of Framing Photographs Again in Vogue.

After being ignored for many years, the passe-partout has again become the favored mode of framing photographs, old prints or engravings. Any one with deft fingers and a moderate amount of patience may soon become an expert in putting together a frame of this sort at a trifling cost, and thus supplying an attractive gift or artistic decoration for one's wall.

Almost every household is in possession of old prints or fine engravings which, for their quaintness or artistic merit, are worth preserving, and photographs of the works of the old masters are effectively framed in passe-partout. The art shops now have on sale materials for making it, in the way of colored cardboard for the mat, and graunlated paper, corresponding in tint, for the binding. The glass may be purchased for a few cents at a glazier's or paint shop, where they will cut it to any required size.

Measure the size of the picture selected, and calculate an appropriate size for the mat, making the measurements all around equal, drawing the lines by a correct rule and allowing the inside edges of the mat to overlap the edges of the print, so that it will be well covered. Cut out the mat, carefully following the pencil lines with a specially sharpened knife or the point of an ink-eraser. Trim off any ragged or uneven edges with a sharp scissors, and fasten the mat to the print with paste at the outer edges, laying it under a weigh to dry smoothly.

For the back cut a piece of heavy pasteboard the exact size, and mark off two tiny slits two-thirds of the distance

from the top. Small brass rings are used for hangers, which are strung on narrow ribbon. The ribbon, doubled, is passed through the slits and gummed down on the inner side of the back. Now glue the mat to the back, bringing all edges evenly together, and again lay it under weights to dry. In the meantime cut strips from the binding paper about three-quarters of an inch wide, no less, and after cutting off the proper lengths gum one-half of the strip lengthwise, and press it along two sides of the glass. Do the same at the top and bottom of the glass, and carefully mitre the corners.

Lay the picture on the glass, and be sure that all edges are even; gum the rest of the strips and bind them over on the back, smoothing them down as much as possible, and the thing is accomplished.

The passe-partout illustrated is done up in bright scarlet, which is most effective on dark prints or photographs. Gray or grown should be selected for prints of delicate tone.

The cardboard may be bought for 20 cents a sheet and the binding paper for five cents, and five or six prints of moderate size may be framed from one sheet. Fish glue is the best paste to use, as it dries quickly and the paper never cracks loose.

Four Zones.

"How many zones have we, Willie?" asked the teacher of a pupil in the junior class.

"Four," was the reply.

"Well, then, name the four," said the teacher.

"The frigerated, the horrid, the temperance and the intemperance," answered the little fellow.—Houston Daily Post.

First Thought Deep in Grief.

On an occasion a bishop was consoling a costermonger for the loss of his little son. The poor fellow was rocking to and fro in his distress. He suddenly looked at the bishop, and, with tears running down his cheeks, said: "D'ye think I could get the young beggar stuffed?"—Exchange.

The Savage Bachelor.

The Dear Girl—This custom of throwing rice at a newly wedded couple is so idiotic.

The Savage Bachelor—Well, rather. Mush would be much more appropriate.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

WHAT CANADA WOULD GAIN BY NEW BOUNDARY.

As contained in a Washington dispatch a sub-committee has reported to the Anglo-American commission recommending the boundary between Alaska and British territory be established practically as shown by the solid black line in the above map. This will place Dyea and White and Chilkoot passes in British territory, and most of the town of Skaguay will also become British ground, the line passing between the main portion of the town and the docks, which remain in Alaska. The spaces between the solid and dotted lines in the map show approximately the new territory which Canada will gain by the new arrangement if adopted by the commission. The proposed new boundary is based on the theory that the ten mile distance inland by which the boundary is fixed should be measured from the sea coast, and not from the shores of inlets, such as the Lynn Canal.

$100,000 ONYX SHAFT IN A CAVERN.

An immense natural monument of the magnificent marble known as onyx is to be seen in the inner depths of a cave situated on a lonely mountain property recently purchased by a wealthy westerner named R. D. Kellogg, of Des Moines, Ia. The cave that contains this agate giant is located in the mountains of Camden county, and is known as Ha Ha Tonka, deriving its name from a river which has its source there, and which was so named by the Indians from its limpid loveliness, which they likened to laughing water.

To get to the wonderful onyx monument, which is as perfect as though chiseled by a sculptor and well worth a trip across the continent to see, it is necessary to penetrate into a deep cave. The easiest way to travel is to row on surface of a subterranean river, which flows from somewhere in the interior of the mountain, and which leads into the heart of the cave, whose walls and roof, seen in the light of torches of visitors, are a glittering mass of mineral marvels. The discoverers of this cave had rowed but a short distance on the subterranean river, when they were astonished and wonder-stricken to see the great onyx monument rising before them. It was perfect in formation, immense in size and worth at the lowest valuation $100,000.

So perfect was the formation of this monument that it was at first hoped it would be possible to transport it by some means to one of the museums of the country, but it was found that its size precluded the possibility of such an undertaking. For the present, therefore, it will be allowed to remain in the cave for the benefit of sightseers who wish to gaze on such a wonderful monument before it is destroyed. So proud is the owner of the property of his cave and monument that he proposes to build a railroad 3 miles long in order to bring the lonely spot on which the subterranean river is to be found in touch with the outer world.

Ha Ha Tonka is located in Camden county, Missouri, and the Osage tribe of Indians, formerly inhabiting that portion of the country, gave it its name. The topography and physicial features of the country in the vicinity of the spring are characterized by scenery as grand and imposing as can be found anywhere. There are found no lofty mountains, no altitudinous peaks, whose snow-capped summits repose in a climate of eternal frosts, but instead there are beautiful forests, open woodlands, impulsive mountain streams, terraced hills, cavernous canyons, caves, grottoes, and parks, a natural bridge, island, lake and subterranean river, high frowning silurian walls, rugged, corrugated and sinuous, upon whose grizzled countenances are chiseled an age so remote that one gazes in wonder and awe upon them; beautiful valleys and cosy coves, where forest birds sing and wild flowers bloom in endless profusion. It is a wonderful spot, and a worthy hiding place for the great monument.

The onyx of which this monument is formed is the finest to be found anywhere in the world. As is generally known, the material is used for cameos. It is mostly brought from India, and some of the most beautiful from Northern Africa. It is not usual to find anywhere in the world such great masses as is to be seen at Ha Ha Tonka.

In America such an immense section of the stone was never discovered. It is a pity that it cannot be preserved intact forever.—St. Louis Star.

DON'T BEGIN PADDING.

"Oh, yes, sir," said the tailor, "I can pad your coat to any extent you like, but I shouldn't advise you to have it done."

"Why not?" I asked.

"It is a mistake," he said. "I have a good number of customers whose clothes I always pad for them. I have done so ever since they first came to me, and while I continue the practice, they will always need it more and more. A young gentleman comes to me, just out of his teens, and beginning to think himself a man. But he hasn't filled out yet, his shoulders are narrow and his chest is flat. So he asks me to build him up a bit. Of course I have to do it to please him, and he struts about in his frame of horse hair, proud of his appearance, and looking forward to the time when he shall have a figure like that all his own. But that time never comes—and the pads are responsible for its absence.

"The fact of the matter is, that the weight which presses on the deficient part is so great, and the heat produced so constant, that profuse perspiration is always going on, and instead of developing and filling out, as the youth would do if he left nature alone, he finds his weak points growing weaker; his shoulders shrink, his chest falls in, and far from being able to throw off his pads and appear in the manly symmetry of his own form, he has to increase his padding from year to year as his flesh is sweated away.

"No, I should certainly never advise any one to begin padding. A little dumb-bell exercise is worth all the tailor's padding in the world."—Tit-Bits.

Disappointment.

"Funny thing happened to Blowhardit a little while ago. We were walking along the sidewalk and he said he hadn't had a fall for six winters—rather boasted of it, in fact. Just then he stepped on a banana skin that had frozen on top of one of those smooth iron coal hole covers."

"And took a hard fall, of course. That's what he got for——"

"No. That's the funny part of it. He didn't fall. Kept right on walking, as if nothing had happened. You can't always tell, you know."—Chicago Tribune.

Where the Kicking Comes From.

Indignant Patriot—Think of President McKinley allowing them to pin an ex-Confederate badge on his coat down there at Macon!

Elderly Man (wearing G. A. R. button)—Oh, yes! Let's think of it. By the way, what battles were you in during the civil war?

"I wasn't in any, but——"

"I thought not."—Chicago Tribune.

Use of Drinking.

First Citizen—The taxes on beer and liquors make a surprisingly large part of our revenue.

Second Citizen—Yes, indeed! It is hard to see how we could expand if we didn't drink.—Puck.

A Case in Point.

"It seems, then, that this official is not as black as he was painted."

"No, he isn't—not since the investigating committee got through whitewashing him."—Chicago News.

Wrong Diagnosis.

"Doctors say now that lying is a disease."

"Disease? It is one of the fine arts."—Chicago Record.

MUSIC FROM BONES

That music hath charms may undoubtedly be true, but it is difficult to understand how one could enjoy the harmony, however dulcet it might be, evolved from such an instrument as is shown in the picture. It consists of the major portion

THE VIOLIN.

of a human skull, over which is stretched a sheet of sheep's skin for sounding board; portion of the leg bone as keyboard, with bits of the small bones of the arms for keys. This curiosity was sent to the owner as a native product from Durban, South Africa.

As It May Be.

Father of the Girl—My dear young man, I have called to ask if you will accept the hand of my daughter.

Young Man—Indeed!

Girl's Father—Yes, sir. I have reason to believe she cares for you, and I know you can make her happy.

Young Man—What are your prospects?

Girl's Father—I am 65 years old, and have the gout, that may take me off at any time. I own 300 shares of the Sure Thing copper mine and an equal number in the Bustville railway. I am worth a quarter of a million. Do you have confidence in me?

Young Man—Well, this is sudden, but I will think it over. Come around Tuesday, some time between 10 and 10:30, and I will give you my answer.

Girl's Father—Very well, sir. Good morning.

Young Man—Good morning.—Detroit Free Press.

A FUNNY FINN.

She Was Discharged Seventeen Times and Didn't Know It.

Young Mrs. McBride had had so much trouble with impudent servants that she was on the verge of nervous prostration, and she would certainly have gone over the verge had the McBride income been large enough. She finally became desperate.

"John," she said one day, "I have hired a new servant. She isn't particularly competent, but of one thing I'm certain—she will not be impudent."

"She won't!" cried her astonished husband. "How do you know she won't?"

"I am sure she won't," replied Mrs. McBride; "and even if she is, I shall not know it. She's a Finn, just over, and she doesn't speak but four words of English."

All the next day Mrs. McBride struggled with the Finn. She talked herself hoarse. She would fairly shout her directions, but shouts and whispers were alike to the Finn. She simply could not understand. When Mr. McBride came home at night his wife was again on the verge.

"Why do you shout so when you talk to her?" he asked, laughing heartily.

"Why? Why? I simply can't make her hear!" cried his wife. "I am so hoarse I can hardly speak aloud, and I am completely worn out. What shall I do, dear?"

"Let me discharge her, of course."

"Discharge her!" echoed his wife. "That's just about as sensible as the average man's suggestion. Discharge that Finn, who knows four words of English!" she sobbed. "What good would that do? Why, John, I have discharged her seventeen times already, and she thinks I've been telling her to get dinner!"—Harper's Bazar.

HOLDS COLUMBUS' BONES.

All that is left of the immortal Columbus was safely deposited with great ceremony in the cathedral of Seville last month. This curious old casket contains what is supposed to be all that remains of the great discoverer and the bones are pitifully few. They have met with many changes since first the body was buried near Seville in Spain in 1506. In 1536 the remains were taken to Santo Domingo, near Hispaniola, and in 1796 were transferred to the cathedral in Havana.

THE LEADEN CASKET.

After a hundred years they are back in Spain, where it is probable they will remain. The Duke of Veragua, whom Chicagoans will remember, was present at the burial last month as a representative of the queen and as a descendant of Columbus.

FUNNY ADVERTISEMENTS

Made So by the Ignorance of the People Who Wrote Them.

"No person," wrote an imaginative undertaker, "ever having tried one of these air-tight coffins of ours will ever use any other."

This is supplemented by the truthful but discouraging advertisement of a dentist: "Teeth extracted with great pains."

A Western farmer advertises for a woman to "wash, iron and milk two cows."

An advertisement once appeared in a Washington paper for "a room for a young man 10 by 12."

This is an advertisement from the columns of an English court journal: "Blankets! Blankets! Blankets! For domestic and charitable purposes of every description, quality, size and weight."

The following advertisement is from an Australian paper: "Wanted a young woman (the plainer the better) to help a small, genteel family in their domestic matters; one without ringlets preferred."

An American paper published in Paris recently contained the following unique advertisement: "A young man of agreeable presence, and desirous of getting married, would like to make the acquaintance of an aged and experienced gentleman who could dissuade him from taking the fatal step."

Here is a specimen of domestic advertising from the columns of the London Times: "Mrs. George Ashton, 5 Victoria street, Westminster, takes this opportunity of thanking her numerous friends for their kind letters of sympathy on the dissolution of her marriage."

How He Got Even.

Meeks—Do you mean to tell me that you stood there like a fool and permitted Hilliken to call you a liar and a scoundrel without resenting it?

Weeks—Well, I should say not. What I did to him was a-plenty.

Meeks—What did you do?

Weeks—Hurried downtown and consulted my lawyer. I've got three witnesses who will swear to what he said and I'm going to make him prove it.—Chicago News.

Suspicious.

"What are these roses worth?"

"Those are $1.50 a dozen."

"Is that your regular figure, or have you marked them up because I am a plumber?"—Chicago Tribune.

WALTER ROTHSCHILD AND HIS ZEBRA TEAM.

Walter Rothschild, the new member of parliament for Mid-Bucks, is best known to the world at large as a naturalist, and his museum at Tring is said to be the finest private collection of zoological specimens in the world. Mr. Rothschild has achieved a remarkable success (after years of trial) in taming and training a team of zebras. These animals are stabled, groomed, fed and shod in the same way as horses, though they always object to the last operation. The zebras present a beautiful sight.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

Continental Money.

"I inclose for your examination a forty-dollar note of 1779. Is it worth anything? If it is dead, why, and when did it cease to be worth $40?"—M. D. L., Dingler, Ala.

The bill, as you will see, was issued under the authority of the Continental Congress. This money was absolutely full legal tender, without any exception, but this did not keep it from depreciating. The first issue was made in 1775, and it was added to every year. Nine millions were issued before any depreciation took place. In March, 1778, $1 in coin was worth $1.75 in paper; in March, 1779, $1 in coin was worth $10 in paper; in February, 1780, $1 in coin was worth $40 in paper. By the end of that year it was worth only one cent to the dollar; by May, 1781, it reached one-fifth of a cent to the dollar, and ceased to circulate. The total amount issued was $241,552,780, or a little over $80 per capita. When the constitution went into effect, in 1789, Congress never took any steps to redeem it. It is worthless except as a curiosity.

The Sault Locks.

"Can you give a description of the canal and locks at St. Mary's strait?"—S. S. F., South Webster, O.

The St. Mary's strait, or river, connects Lakes Superior and Huron, and is 63 miles long. One mile below Lake Superior are the rapids, known as the Sault Ste. Marie, the first word being pronounced "Soo." The river is navigable to the falls for the largest vessels. These rapids have, within three-quarters of a mile, a fall of 22 feet. A ship canal around the falls was completed May 19, 1855, the greater part of which is cut through solid rock. This canal had a lock 370 feet long and 70 feet wide.

This lock was afterward enlarged to 515 feet long and 80 feet wide. Later a second lock was built, called the "Poe lock," after the United States engineer who superintended the work, which is 800 feet long and 100 feet wide. On the Canadian side a canal has also been constructed, whose lock is 900 feet long and 60 feet wide.

Declaration of War.

"In a debate one party declared that the United States declared war against Spain; the other that the Cuban resolution was held by Spain as intruding upon Spanish liberty. Which is correct?"—C. D. Evansport, O.

The first is correct. The ultimatum of this government to Spain, delivered April 20, 1898, was a formal demand upon the government of Spain to "relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters."

The Spanish government issued a decree which recognized the existence of "a state of war" between Spain and the United States, on April 24.

On April 25, both houses of Congress passed a bill declaring the existence of a state of war between us and Spain, from April 21, when the Spanish government refused to receive our ultimatum.

That "Sixty Millions of Greenbacks."

For years it has been a contention of the greenbackers that "the first issue of greenbacks was for $60,000,000," and that they did not fall below par "because they did not contain the exception clause." We have time and again explained this matter in the Bureau, for the past ten years, and still the old question comes around regularly from some one.

We now ask every one who wishes to know the facts about that issue to send five cents in a letter, addressed to "Sound Currency Committee, Reform Club, 52 William street, New York, N. Y.," and ask them to mail you a copy of their pamphlet, entitled "The Demand Notes of 1861." It is a 16-page pamphlet, which would fill more than two pages of The Blade. In it you will find all that can be told about these notes, but it gives references to the Revised Statutes of the United States, and to different works on the money question, for the convenience of those who desire to go to first sources and see that the pamphlet tells the truth.

Gen. Harrison Gray Otis.

W. A. L., Whipple, O.: There are two General Otises in the Philippines. Look on page 4, fourth column, of the Weekly Blade of February 16, in the article headed "He's a Newspaper Man." Gen. Elwell Stephen Otis is the commander-in-chief. Gen. Harrison Gray Otis commands a brigade under him. The latter's record in the civil war was 49 months in the field, 15 engagements, two wounds in battle and seven promotions. He fought with the 12th Ohio volunteers and the 23d Ohio veteran volunteer infantry. President McKinley knew him in the field and ever afterward admired him. He was brevetted a major on the recommendation of Major General Rutherford B. Hayes. Gen. Otis was a newspaper man in Louisville when the civil war came, and proprietor and editor of the Los Angeles Times when the Spanish war opened.

Cancer.

"I see so many answers to D. W. B. for a chilblain cure, I would like to ask through The Blade if any one of your readers know of a recipe for a blood medicine that will cure cancer."—X. L. L.

No, we can not make such a request nor would we publish any recipes so furnished. The reason is, that cancer can not be cured by any medicine. Medical science has never discovered any remedy for it. The only treatment which is of any avail is surgical. We know of persons who had cancers cut out, and who are well and hearty. One case is that of a lady who had her left breast entirely removed thirty years ago, and has been well ever since. As soon as a tumor of any kind appears, the advice of the best physician should be had and if he pronounces it cancer, then a good surgeon should operate as speedily as possible. Any tumor or sore which medicine cures is not a cancer; be sure of that.

Some National Airs.

"Please give the circumstances under which some of our national airs were written, viz., 'Home, Sweet Home,' Battle Hymn of the Republic,' 'Star Spangled Banner, and America.'"—G. W. R., Dudley, Pa.

Don't fall into the common error of supposing that, because a poem or a song strikes the popular fancy, there necessarily must have been some extraordinary circumstances attending its writing. As a rule, this is not true. So far as we can ascertain, there were no circumstances worth recording concerning any of the above, except the Star Spangled Banner. Francis Scott Key, its author, was a prisoner on a vessel of the British fleet which bombarded Ft. McHenry in the war of 1812. The bombardment continued during the night, and Key and his friends had no way of finding out the result, until the break of day would reveal whether the American flag was still flying over the fort. Then they saw that "our flag was still there," and under the excitement and joy of the fact he penned the song.

Hon. Blanche K. Bruce.

A. G. G., Trade, Tenn.: Blanche K. Bruce was of African descent. He was born a slave in Prince Edward county, Va., March 1, 1841. His master's son taught him to read and write. When the war broke out he left his young master, taught school in Missouri, attended college at Oberlin, O., and in 1869 became a planter in Mississippi. He was a member of the state levee board, sheriff of Bolivar county, and county superintendent of education. He was elected United States Senator for Mississippi in 1875, serving until 1881. Later he was appointed Register of the Treasury by President Garfield. He was a mulatto, being half white and half negro.

When the Centuries Begin.

The discussion as to when the 19th century ends and the 20th begins is getting wearisome. We refer all interested in it to the fourth page of this paper, where will be found an exhaustive article on it. So far as we are concerned, that settles the matter. All the dates in history are given on the system which we have therein set forth as plainly as we can do it. The article was written for both the Daily and the Weekly Blade, and appeared in the Daily of last Saturday, February 19. Please read it carefully, and then agree to abide by the verdict of the scientific men and the historians, that the 19th century ends on Dec. 31, 1900, and the 20th century begins on Jan. 1, 1901.

Two Rivers.

M. W., North Urbana, N. Y.: The Thames river in England is navigable for vessels of any burden as far as Deptford, which is three miles below London Bridge. From that up to London Bridge it is navigable for vessels of 700 or 800 tons. The bridges prevent vessels going any higher.

The Seine is navigable for large vessels to Rouen, which is 67 miles below Paris. Small vessels can go up to Mery-sur-Seine, 350 miles from its mouth. Hence ocean steamers can not reach Paris, nor do they enter either the Seine or the Thames, as a matter of fact. Observe the rule concerning the number of questions.

Money Plank of 1896.

"I wish to ask you if the answer to S. A. E., Craig, O., is correct, in the Weekly Blade of Feb. 8, regarding the money plank of 1896. I have examined three different files, which correspond, but are not the same as you give. It is not the same as the 1892 plank, as I have them."—G. W. S., Van Orin, Ill.

The plank is correct as we gave it. The writer attended the national Republican convention of 1896 at St. Louis, and knows it to be absolutely correct.

Civil Service Questions.

J. J. S., Alto, Va.: It is useless to write to us for detailed information on civil service examinations. We have printed, time and again, the fact that if persons will write to Hon. John T. Doyle, Secretary U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., stating what examination you wish to take, you will receive a pamphlet of information and a list of the places and times for such examinations. Don't ask us anything further, for we can not answer.

Legal Tender of Coins.

C. P. T., West Lima, Wis.: Section 3515, Revised Statutes of the United States, provides that "the minor coins of the United States shall be a 5-cent piece and a one-cent piece." Section 3587 says: "The minor coins of the United States shall be a legal tender at their nominal value for any amount not exceeding 25 cents in one payment." The act of February 28, 1878, provides that the silver dollar shall be a legal tender, at its nominal value, "for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract."

Heat and Cold.

"Why do red-hot iron and frozen mercury produce the same sensation?"—W. E. R., Carpenter, O.

You make your question too narrow. It should be stated thus: "Why do a high degree of heat and an extreme degree of cold produce the same sensation?" Both have the same effect—to destroy the vitality of living flesh, and hence produce similar sensations in the nerves.

Our Battleships.

"What are the lengths of the United States war vessels New York, Oregon, Indiana, Iowa and Brooklyn?"—C. W. M., Watauga, Ill.

The lengths on the load water-line are: New York, 380 feet 6 inches; Oregon and Indiana, 348 feet; Iowa, 360 feet; Brooklyn, 400 feet 6 inches.

Price of Silver.

"Are you correct in the assertion in The Blade of January 5, 1899, that silver was worth over $1 per ounce as late as 1890?"—G. A. H., Canaseraga, N. Y.

We gave the official figures of the United States Treasury department. The average price per ounce of silver bullion in 1890 was $1.04633. An ounce is 480 grains. A silver dollar contains 371.25 grains of silver. The silver in the silver dollar, therefore, had an average value of 80 cents 9 mills in 1890.

Acetylene Gas.

A. N., Decatur, Mich.: Acetylene is produced by the action of water on calcium carbide, which is a compound of the metal calcium with carbon. When it is put in water, the oxygen of the water unites with the calcium, forming lime; the hydrogen of the water unites with the carbon, forming acetylene. Calcium carbide is made by melting lime with carbon, in the form of crushed coke, in an electric furnace.

The "Sunk Country."

"What is meant by the sunken lands of Missouri? Please give a description, location, why it is so called, what caused it, and when it took place."—E. H. S., Mulberry, Ind.

The most severe earthquake occurring in the Mississippi Valley since the settlement of America, was that of 1811 which destroyed the town of New Madrid, Mo. Over an extent of country for 300 miles southward from the mouth of the Ohio, the ground rose and sank in great undulations; lakes were formed and again drained. The surface burst open in huge cracks, generally running northeast and southwest, which were often a half mile or more long. The disturbances continued for over a year, and since then the "Sunk country," until March 26, 1812, when they ceased at the time of the great earthquake at Caracas, South America.

The "sunk country" is in New Madrid and Stoddard counties, in the southeastern corner of Missouri. It is under water, and the efforts to reclaim it so far have been fruitless, as the surface there is level, and there is no means of draining it. It is now a region of swamps and shallow lakes.

International Alliances.

"Are there any international alliances now existing between any of the great world powers; if so between which nations, and to what advantage are they? Also would it be advantageous to the United States to form an alliance with Great Britain, and why?"—E. L. W., Nappanee, Ind.

There have been in history many alliances between nations, some for commercial purposes, some for mutual defense, some for the maintenance of peace in a given area, and the latter, the alliance of the six great powers, at the time of the war between Greece and Turkey, a couple of years ago, is well remembered. They would not allow Greece to annex Crete, nor would they allow Turkey to crush Greece.

Of the second—for mutual defense—the Dreibund is an example. It is an alliance among Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungary. It is a protection to Germany against France, to Austria-Hungary against Russia, and to Italy against France.

But an alliance between Great Britain and the United States would not for any warlike purpose. It would be for the extension of trade. We have discussed it fully in the answer headed "Alliance with Great Britain," which we ask you to read carefully.

Alliance With Great Britain.

"Would an alliance with Great Britain be beneficial to the United States? If so, why?"—H. A. G., Republic, Mo.

An alliance for certain specific objects would certainly be beneficial. The principle is just the same as of two men going into partnership to conduct a specific business.

Do not fall into the error of assuming that an aliance means that we should take up all the international quarrels of Great Britain. The only possible alliance is one for the extension of trade and the civilization of barbarous peoples. It is this which is meant when the possibility of an alliance is discussed.

Lord Charles Beresford is now in this country to get the views of commercial organizations in the United States on the subject of such an alliance. Sent by the associated chambers of commerce of England to make investigations in regard to the Chinese trade in all its aspects, he has spent months in China gathering information and sounding the minds of viceroys and public officials. Now on his way back to England, with his mind made up in regard to the proper policy to pursue, he is spending time enough in America to learn of the sentiment in this country in regard to co-operation with England in the policy he advocates.

He is committed to the "open door," which means the establishing of free entrance for merchants of all nations to all parts of China. It is the direct opposite of the policy which Germany and France are advocating for the exclusive control of isolated parts of Chinese territory by separate nations. That latter policy, with its "sphere of influence," is being rapidly realized by Russia in North China, while France is fastening its grip in South China. Lord Beresford holds that China is on the point of being split up, that its dissolution will come within four years at the outside unless some agency intervenes to guarantee the stability of its government and preserve its ports free to to ships of all nations. He plans the entire reorganization of Chinese government, beginning with the military and naval forces, and ending with the civil administration. This he would have carried out by Germany, England, France and United States, through an alliance or a mutual understanding.

"I mention these four nations," he said, "because they are the great trading nations. France and Russia have no trade to speak of. They want territory, not commerce. When they seize Chinese soil they will put on taxes and make it profitable to them in that way. The interests of the trading nations are opposed to this. They have no use for territory, because commercial freedom is much more valuable to them. They can well afford to continue to keep the ports open.

"As I have said before, I do not look forward to an alliance between England and the United States and the other countries so much as to an understanding. A formal alliance is not necessary. If it is agreed upon, it would of course need have reference only to China, and would not involve the participating countries in their other relations. I would like to see England and the United States formally allied for purposes of trade in the east, but I would not expect any other kind of an alliance without long and thorough consideration.

"The possibilities of the trade with China are hardly dreamed of even by the most far-seeing merchants of America. There is a nation of 400,000,000 people, and we have hardly scratched the surface of them yet. I tell you that I think the opening up of China to Western trade will be one of the most gigantic events of the century."

"Old Christmas."

"What caused Old Christmas Day to take that name?"—F. B., Bundy's P. O., N. C.

When Julius Cæsar, in 46 B. C., reformed the calendar, he made the year 365 days long, and added one day every fourth year. This makes the year exactly 365¼ days, which is about 11 minutes too much. In 1582 this error amounted to 10 days, and Pope Gregory corrected the calendar by ordering that October 5, 1582, should be called the 15th; and he arranged the leap years so as to keep the error from occurring again, by ordering that no centurial year (those ending in two ciphers, like 1600, 1900, etc.,) should be a leap year unless it can be divided by 400 without any remainder. That is the reason 1900 will not be a leap year.

The Russians still adhere to the old way, and their dates are now 12 days behind our. "Old Christmas" is the date Christmas would have occurred, if the change in the calendar had not been made. This year it was on January 6.

The Two Hancocks.

M. R., Springfield, Ind.: John Hancock and Gen. W. S. Hancock were in no wise related. John Hancock, the Revolutionary statesman, was the son of John Hancock, a clergyman, who in turn was the son of John Hancock, sr., born in Cambridge, Mass., in 171. Gen. Hancock's grandfather was born in Scotland, and his father in Philadelphia.

The Eagle On the Dime.

We thank several friends for calling our attention to our incorrect statement recently—that the eagle does not appear on the United States dime. It was on obverse side for many years.

No Such Law.

"Did Congress at any time pass a law that the United States should acquire no more territory?" Democrats claim such was the case shortly after we acquired California."—W. D., Huntertown, Ind.

No such law was ever passed at any time by Congress. And such a law would be of no value, for it could be repealed at any time by any succeeding Congress—which would be done in case the acquisition of new territory were being considered.

Miscellaneous.

J. M. J., Vandalia, Ill.: Yes.

J. E. F., Shaw, Ore.: We know nothing of the institution.

C. C., Pinckneyville, Ill.: We do not know. Never heard of the denomination.

M. E. C., Orchard Hill, Mich.: We do not know. Write to the warden and ask him.

J. P. H. M., Falkville, Ala.: We can not furnish the information complete, for it is not obtainable.

M. J. G., Glen's Falls, N. Y.: The story is false. There is no doubt whatever of Durrant's guilt.

G. S. Z., Rogersville, O.: Hon. L. D. Bonebrake is state commissioner of common schools of Ohio.

I. C., Rolla, Mo.: The warden of the penitentiary can give you permission. Apply to him in person.

W. C., Savannah, Mo.: Greenbacks are not taxable. No government taxes the evidences of its own debt.

J. T., Centerview, Mo.: We have no idea where Kossuth's speeches could be obtained. We never saw them.

J. O. A., Roy, Ga.: "The race problem" is only another form of saying "the negro question" as it exists in the South to-day.

A. J. H., Kimmell, Ind.: We know of way except to write to the postmaster of the town, who may be able to find out for you.

W. C., Hartford, S. D.: There are United States law offices at Cookston, Duluth, Marshall and St. Cloud, Minnesota. Apply to them.

F. A. B., Medford, Ore.: The custom of packing flour in quarter-barrel (49 lbs.) muslin sacks began somewhere about 1859. The exact date is not known.

W. J., Savonburg, Kan.: It depends entirely upon the circumstances of the case. Put it into the hands of an honest pension attorney in your own county.

M. O., Rockville, Ind.: A camera with fixed focus will make a passable landscape, but is of little value for anything else. Artistic work is impossible.

M. P. W., Altamaha, Ga.: We do not know who publishes the book. Get a bookseller to write to some wholesale dealer in New York to get it for you.

E. A. C., Vandalia, Ill.: We do not understand clearly what you mean. Better consult a pension attorney. He won't charge you for answering the questions.

F. A. B., Newark, O.: Send us the date of the paper and we will send a copy of that issue. We can not reprint, nor can we spare time to search the files to find the date.

C. R., Buchanan, Mich.: The business of a bank is the discounting of notes and loaning of money. The United States Treasury does not do this, so it is not a bank, in any sense of the word.

C. V. S., Tiffin, O.: We are unable to say. Your representative in Congress will inform you if you will write to him.

D. J. H., Montrose, Colo.: We have no doubt the story is false. There have been several stories of that kind circulating for years, and we are sorry one of them inadvertently got into The Blade.

A. C., Philipsville, Pa.: There are no vacancies at present in the United States, hence there are 90 Senators. Each state elects two, as provided in the constitution.

C. S., Lafayette, Ind.: We do not know. Hon. Ferdinand W. Peck, of Chicago, is commissioner general of the United States to the Paris exposition of 1900.

J. M. H., Colby, Tenn.: We do not know how many women Brigham Young married in the course of his life, but when he died he left 17 wives, 16 sons and 28 daughters, and had been the father of 56 children.

W. G. Conway, Mo.: The President does not possess such power. It belongs to Congress. In the army bill, which recently passed the House, is a paragraph abolishing the army canteen. It remains to be seen what the Senate will do with it.

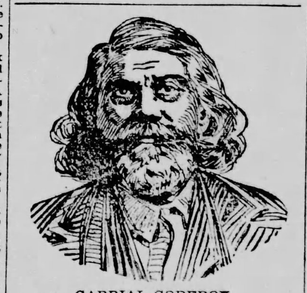
J. R. Y., Dry Creek, Tenn.: The 18th U. S. Infantry is at Manila. A letter addressed to a soldier in it, giving his company and regiment, will reach him if addressed, "Manila, Philippine Islands." It will require only a 2-cent stamp. We have no idea how long the regiment will remain there.

G. I., Saronville, Neb.: The inscription in Stradivarius violins, "Antonius Stradiuarius Cremonensis faciebat anno 16—," means "Antony Stradivarius made me at Cremona in 16—." The circle containing a cross and the letters A S, is the monogram of Stradivarius. See Bureau of Weekly Blade of Jan. 5.

The Last of the Miamis

Gabrial Godfroy, the last lineal descendant of the Miamis, once the proudest and most powerful tribe of Indians that roamed the forests of this continent is living the life of a prosperous farmer near Peru, Ind.

Although more than three score years of age, he is still a fine specimen of manhood. He is short and stout, has a piercing black eye, a quick step and is well educated. A heavy growth of snow-white hair covers his head and hangs to his shoulders and together with his swarthy countenance it produces a very picturesque appearance.



GABRIAL GODFROY.

Chief Godfroy, as he is more familiarly known about home, owns one of the finest farms in northern Indiana, and as he looks after it himself, it is cared for in the most successful manner. Surrounding him at home is his wife and several small children, the youngest not more than a year old. In the neighborhood are hundreds of Miami Indians, who very frequently look to Chief Godfroy for all kinds of advice and assistance. It is said that without any exception, Chief Godfroy is guardian for more persons than any other individual in the north central states.

Chief Godfroy has tried to trace his maternal ancestors, but has failed to ascertain much concerning them. However, he has learned that his grandfather was a white man who was captured by the Swanee Indians near Louisville, Ky., when he was but seven years old. The boy grew up among the redskins and became one of the most skilful traders of the tribe. He was the interpreter at the treaty of Greenville.

He chose for a wife a woman who was half French, but she belonged to the Miami tribe. To them were born many children, and at a ripe old age the father died near the place where he was captured when a boy. The mother and her children moved to Fort Wayne to live among her people, and while there one of her daughters married Francis Godfroy, a Miami chief, whose father was a full-blooded Frenchman. Only a few children resulted from this union and one of them was Gabrial Godfroy, the subject of this sketch.

—Hood's Sarsaparilla never disappoints. It may be taken for impure and impoverished blood with perfect confidence that it will cure.

X-RAY SAVES BABY

The illustration shows a safety-pin lodged in a baby's throat. The baby—a 3-year old girl, of Boulder, Col.—tried to swallow the pin, but this is as far as it got. An X-ray picture of the child's throat was taken, and surgeons extracted the pin successfully.

SAFETY PIN IN HER THROAT.

SCOTTISH IMPARTIALTY.

Color-Sergeant of highland company (in which were one or two English) calling the roll:

"Angus Mackay!" No reply. Louder: "Angus Mackay!" Still no reply. (Sotto voce): "I ken ye're there; yer are at yer ootly, decent mon, but ye're ower modest to speak before sae mony folk. I see ye fine." Marks him down in the roll.

"John Jones!"

Squeaky voice replies: "Ere."

Sergeant: "You ay ye're here, or say ye're here, but ye're sic a muckle leear I canna believe a word that comes oot o' yer mooth, sae I'll jist mark ye doon as absent!"—Answers.

Business Rivalry.

The Clerk—The jeweler down the street is selling a collar button that can be exchanged for a new one if it gets damaged. He has the sole agency.

The Jeweler—I'll fix him all right. I'll offer to send a boy around to hunt up any one of our buttons when it rolls under the bureau.—Indianapolis Journal.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

A book which takes hold of one like some hideous nightmare, that clinches with the grip of an octopus and demands the strongest of wills to throw off the deadly, clinging weight—this is the story by C. E. Raimond, recently published by the Harpers', under the title of The Open Question. It is strong, virile, full of energy, yet morbid, tragic and without any real purpose because it opens questions and leaves them wholly unanswered. It is only those who have studied the deeper problems of life in the light of a divine love that never fails and will, at the last, reconcile all things with Itself, who can read this book and not feel the shadows of an unutterable loneliness settle down upon his heart, to remain a longer or a shorter time as his imagination is vivid or weak.

It is called a tale of two temperaments, and its chief actors are found in a Southern family who were reduced by the war to poverty and removed from their old home to some place in the middle states, where takes place the larger part of the action of the story. The Gano family was full if pride of birth, but through continued intermarriage had become weakened by inherited disease. This fact, with the accompanying circumstances, opens the question as to whether it is right for physically debilitated men and women to perpetuate their race, and this question leads to another as to the justifying of suicide under great suffering.

A book of poems from the pen of Thomas Hardy comes from the Harpers, his publishers, in the nature of a surprise, as he has been known hitherto only through his novels. Wessex Poems is the title of a volume of which only four of the pieces of verse gathered there have ever been given to the public. That they would bring him fame of themselves is doubtful, nor is it likely that the poems will be classed among those which will live for the centuries. They are in many places faulty, words seeming to be used in order to piece out the meter, and giving an awkward touch that does not belong to true poetry, yet some have an intensity that thrills, and some, especially those of a military character, are spirited in expression and thus enjoyable.

New Thought Essays is the title of a volume recently issued by the Alliance Publishing Company, New York. The author, Charles Brodie Patterson, is known to all interested in metaphysical subjects through his books Beyond the Clouds, Visions of Truth, Seeking the Kingdom, etc.

A great many clear, scientific and common sense thoughts as well, are written in these essays, concerning the mental conditions of the individual, and how to make them better.

The Vir Publishing Company, of Philadelphia, brings out a volume in the Self and Sex Series entitled What a Young Woman Ought To Know. Its author is Dr. Mary Wood-Allen, who is well known in Toledo as a woman whose training and ability are such as fit her for writing just such a work as this in a way to make it interesting as well as valuable.

The volume is divided into three parts; the first treats of the value of the body and its hygiene; the second of special physiology and the laws of maternity, and the third of love, engagements and marriage.

Sundown Leffare is a collection of five short stories, by Frederic Remington, which the author has himself illustrated in a characteristic manner. The central character is Sundown, a half-breed, and he tells the stories in the Indian dialect. Any one interested in the Indian, whether belonging to the East or the West, will find these stories of Remington's with their illustrations very interesting. Harper & Brothers are the publishers.

COQUETTES' LATEST FAD

Girls in the western cities have a new idea. It is to wear a patch of court plaster on a level with the lips. It is known as the Hobson spot.

THE HOBSON SPOT.

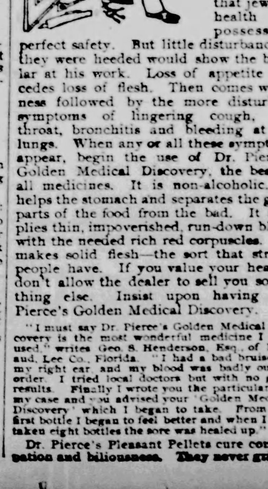
Reason For It.

Excited New Yorker—I want to know why in the name of all the blazes I should have to pay more for a cab I hire in front of a hotel than for one I hire along the street.

Policeman—'Cause the hotel cabs is particularly for the use of strangers in town, see?—Indianapolis Journal.

A London burglar was set upon by a pet orang-outang in a house he was robbing, and was so badly bitten and mutilated that he died.

Most of the so-called protections against burglary, do not protect any more than most of the so-called "remedies" protect from the burglary of the "house of this body" by the crafty burglar—Disease. Like the regular burglar, disease works with as little disturbance as possible. You think you have that jewel of health you possess in perfect safety. But little disturbances if they were heeded would show the burglar at his work. Loss of appetite precedes loss of flesh. Then comes weakness followed by the more disturbing symptoms of lingering cough, sore throat, bronchitis and bleeding at the lungs. When any or all these symptoms appear, begin the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, the best of all medicines. It is non-alcoholic. It helps the stomach and separates the good parts of the food from the bad. It supplies thin, impoverished, run-down blood with the needed rich red corpuscles. It makes solid flesh—the sort that strong people have. If you value your health, don't allow the dealer to sell you something else. Insist upon having Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.



"I must say Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the most wonderful medicine I ever used," writes Geo S. Henderson, Esq., of Denaud, Lee Co., Florida. "I had a bad bruise on my right ear, and my blood was badly out of order. I tried local doctors but with no good results. Finally I wrote you the particulars in my case and you advised your 'Golden Medical Discovery' which I began to take. From the first bottle I began to feel better and when I had taken eight bottles the sore was healed up."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation and biliousness. They never gripe.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Colic in Calves.

O. W. W., South Dakota: Young calves are suffering with a disease called shoote, a colic that at times becomes epidemic. The calf at first is attacked by severe gripings, then offensive discharges from the bowels. These recur until the animal dies of exhaustion. Sometimes after the first discharges, the pain abates and the symptoms disappear. The usual remedy is to give, as early in the disease as possible, a mixture of eggs, wheat flour and linseed oil; or milk mulled with whisky. Should this fail, a dose of a drachm of essence of ginger, with two drachms of laudanum, in gruel, should be repeated until the colicky symptoms are overcome.

Black-Leg in Young Cattle.

F. A. D., Iowa: Black leg, blackquarter, or charbon, is a rapidly infectious disease of young cattle, associated with external swellings which emit a crackling sound when handled. Like anthrax, black-leg is more or less restricted to certain localities. Some authors are of the opinion that undrained, swampy pastures favor the disease. Cattle between six months and four years old are most susceptible. The cause of the disease is a bacillus, which has within it the power of forming a spore. These spores resist destructive agents for a length of time. Dry spores may be carried in hay or other feed from the field. Observers have found this organism in the mud of swamps. It is believed that cattle contract the disease mainly through wounds, either of the skin, tongue or mouth. The animal nearly always dies within one and a half to three days after the attack. Remedies have proven of little avail. Some writers recommend that the swelling be opened by deep and long incisions and a strong disinfectant applied to the exposed parts. The application recommended is: 1 oz. carbolic acid to a pint of water. If the tumor appears low down on the limb, tie a cord around the limb just above the tumor and open the tumor as stated above.

Mare Lame—Lampas—Hide Bound.

J. C. D., Indiana: The lameness in your mare is evidently in the foot, in the sensitive laminæ. As the disease has run for some time, a cure is not certain. Stand the mare in a tub of warm water once a day for an hour for a week. Then dry the foot well. Have your smith cut away all dead horn around the frog, and then rub kerosene well in over the frog and bottom of the foot, also apply this to the hoof once a day for a month. Rub a little of this well in above the hoof (around the coronet). Red iodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 2 ozs. This should be applied once a week for a month. Give the mare in her drinking water 1 oz. pulverized saltpetre once a day for three days. Take off the shoes and give the mare a month's rest if possible. Better for her to stand on an earth floor in the stable. A little exercise will be beneficial. Her feet must be kept perfectly clean. Regarding lampas, or "lampers," and hide bound in your other case, give her a dose of 1½ ozs. of raw linseed oil in which 1 oz. of pulverized saltpetre has been stirred. Take a sharp knife and gently scarify the bars of the mouth. After this take a small swab and wash the bars with alum water. You must carefully examine the mare's teeth. If they are decayed, a veterinary surgeon should be called. If the teeth are uneven or sharp, they should be filed. For the indigestion, give this: Baking soda, powdered ginger and powdered gentian, equal parts. Mix well and give in heaping tablespoonful doses, twice a day, before feeding. Give each dose in a half pint of water as a drench.

Vinegar From Maple Tree Sap.

C. P., O. T., wishes to know the best method of making vinegar from maple tree sap. The editor does not know. Will some one please tell C. P.?

Something Wrong With Mare Colt.

A subscriber asks a question about his mare colt. He gives neither his name, state nor county; nor does he tell the age of the colt. The editor's rule is to answer no question that has no name, state and county attached. The age of the animal must always be given. A dose of medicine that would cure a full grown animal, might kill a colt.

Bone Spavin.

H. H., Pennsylvania: Bone spavin is incurable. Lameness may be removed, but the disease, when once established, destroys the mobility and functions of the joint. The best thing to be done is: Take of bin-iodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 2 ozs. Mix well. Shave off the hair and rub some of the ointment in once a day for six days. It may be necessary to repeat this after three weeks' time. Wash off every morning with warm water and soap; dry well and then apply the ointment.

Cow Gives Stringy Milk.

W. J. M., Pennsylvania: You must look to the kind of water your cow is drinking. If it is contaminated from any cause it must be corrected. Your cow is suffering from an acid condition of the blood. Give her 1 pound of Epsom salts in 3 pints of warm water. After this operates give her for a full week 1 oz. hyposulphite of soda daily on a bran mash or cut feed. The spores of fungi may be present in the system of the cow.

Received.

From United States Department of Agriculture: Alkali Lands, by Milton Whitney and Thomas H. Means.

From experiment station of the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan: The potato-stalk weevil. (Trichobaris trinatata, say.)—A new crop for Kansas farmers (the soy bean.)—The spring canker worm.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bees as Pollen Distributors.

The value of honey bees as pollen distributors is becoming better known as more thorough investigations and experiments are made, says A. I. Root, in an exchange. Fruit growers are becoming familiar with this fact and are fostering the culture of honey bees in the near vicinity of their fruit farms. Many experiments have been made in the raising of fruit where many bees were in reach of the same, and also where there were no bees in the vicinity. In almost every case where the bees were in ready reach of the orchards the fruit was not only more in quantity, but also better in quality.

This is not only so with fruit, but nearly all seed-bearing plants, both wild and domesticated. One would be somewhat surprised to see the different well known cereals enumerated that bees work on and carry pollen from. There is not one of the well known cereals that furnishes pollen that the bees do not work on and distribute the pollen. They work extensively on the bloom of corn, wheat and oats and all the different sorghums and all the different clovers. It is true that they do not work extensively on the common red clover, but to some degree they do, and on all other vegetable blossoms. I do not now think of one they do not work on in the vegetable line.

Some other insects, of course, are pollen distributors, but not nearly as general as the honey bees. These insects have more of a specialty as to certain flowers, and you will scarcely see them on more than one variety of blossoms, so that the honey bee is the only general distributor of pollen, and her field is so much larger. The honey bees take in a wonderfully wide territory. They will do a thorough work over a territory six miles in diameter.

The honey bee is the fruit grower's best friend and one of nature's great gifts to men; so that it owes them a debt of gratitude, and should treat them accordingly. There is not a neighborhood occupied by man but should be stocked with honey bees. The honey they gather is all clear gain, and while they are gathering it they are, in addition, carrying pollen from flower to flower, thus doubly doing good.

Potatoes as Food.

There is a disposition on the part of a number of quasi-scientific people to decry potatoes as a food for man. They endeavor to prove by the characteristics of nations that those nations which eat large quantities of potatoes are slowly but surely deteriorating, and claim the popular tuber will in time sap the vitality of those nations which use it largely, making them dull and sluggish and liable to certain diseases originating in the stomach.

There does not seem to be any good reason for this line of argument. It is true the potato is largely made up of carbohydrates and water, but this does not argue that it is a poor sort of a food. It only shows that it is a badly balanced food and should be supplemented with something else. The potato in its natural form consists of: Water, 78 per cent; protein, 2 per cent; carbohydrates, 18 per cent, and fat one-tenth of 1 per cent. It would be expressed in the ratio, 1:9.

Oddly enough, codfish contains 16 per cent of protein; no carbohydrates and less than one-half of 1 per cent of fat. Take a pound each of codfish and potatoes and we have almost exactly the same weight of protein and carbohydrates. This shows the despised codfish ball to be a very rich food, containing too much protein if equal weights of the materials are used. If with codfish balls we eat white bread, we secure an almost exactly balanced ration. If with potatoes we eat lean meat we must take less meat and more white bread to balance the ration. The carbohydrates in the potato are just as necessary to man as the protein in the beefsteak or the codfish, or in eggs or milk.

Potatoes are all right as food and at prices that generally prevail nothing can be substituted that will take their place in the vast majority of homes.—Farmers' Voice.

THE GRIP CURE THAT DOES CURE.

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets removes the cause that produces La Grippe. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each Tablet. 25c.

Cheap at That.

Poet—"Here's a little poem I dashed off. Can you publish it?"

Editor—"It'll look well in print. I suppose £5 won't be too much, will it?"

Poet—"That's really more than I expected."

Editor—"Perhaps it is, but that's the cheapest we could print it for."—Pearson's Weekly.

An Impression.

"Just think," said the Spanish courtier, who was telling the boy king stories of "Santa Claus, going about the world giving away all he has."

"Without a protest?"

"Yes."

"Or an appeal to the Powers, or an effort to get a few million dollars?"

"Yes."

"Well, he's good natured. But he isn't much of a diplomat."—Washington Star.

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Talmage's Sermon.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS.

Dr. Talmage Preached to the Men On the Road.

In this discourse Dr. Talmage gives words of good cheer to commercial travelers, and tells of their safeguards and their opportunities. Text, Nahum ii., 4: "The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings."

It has been found out that many of the arts and discoveries which we supposed were peculiar to our own age, are merely the restoration of the arts and discoveries of thousands of years ago. I suppose that the past centuries have forgotten more than the present century knows. It seems to me that they must have known thousands of years ago, in the days of Nineveh, of the uses of steam and its application to swift travel. In my text I hear the rush of the rail train, the clang of the wheels, and the jamming of the car couplings. "The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways; they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings."

I think commercial travelers can stand a sermon of warm-hearted sympathy. If you have any words of good cheer for them, you had better utter them. If you have any good, honest prayers in their behalf, they will be greatly obliged to you. I never knew a man yet who did not like to be prayed for; I never knew a man yet who did not like to be helped. It seems to me this sermon is timely. At this season of the year there are tens of thousands of men going out to gather the spring trade. The months of February and March in all commercial establishments are very busy months. In a few days our national perplexities will all be settled, and then look out for the brightest ten years of national prosperity which this country has ever witnessed. All our astute commercial men feel that we are standing at the opening gate of wonderful prosperity. Let the manufacturers put the bands on their wheels, and the merchants open a new set of account books in place of those filled with long columns of bad debts. Let us start on a new commercial campaign. Let us drop the old tune of "Naomi," and take up "Ariel" or "Antioch."

Now you, the commercial traveler, have received orders from the head men of the firm that you are to start on a long excursion. You have your patterns all assorted and prepared. You have them put up in bundles or cases and marked. You have full instructions as to prices. You know on what prices you may retreat somewhat. You have your valise or trunk, or both, packed. If I were a stranger I would have no right to look into that valise, but as I am your brother, I will take the liberty. I look into the valise and I congratulate you on all these comfortable articles of apparel. The seasons are so changeable, you have not taken a single precaution too many. Some night you will get out in the snow bank and have to walk three or four miles until you get to the railroad station, and you will want all these comforts and conveniences. But will you excuse me if I make a suggestion or two about this valise? You say, "Certainly, as we are having a plain, frank talk, I will not be offended at any honorable suggestion."

Put in among your baggage some carefully selected, wholesome reading. Let it be in history, or a poem, or a book of pure fiction, or some volume that will give you information in regard to your line of business. Then add to that a Bible, in round beautiful type—small type is bad for the eyes anywhere, but peculiarly killing in the jolt of a railtrain. Put your railroad guide and your Bible side by side—the one to show you the route through this world, and the other to show you the route to the next world. "Oh," you say, "that is superfluous, for now in all the hotels in the parlor you will find a Bible, and in nearly all the rooms of the guest you will find one." But, my brother, that is not your Bible. You want your own hat, your own coat, your own blanket, your own Bible. "But," you say, "I am not a Christian, and you ought not to expect me to carry a Bible." My brother, a great many people are not Christians who carry a Bible. Beside that, before you get home, you might become a Christian, and you would feel awkward without a copy. Beside that, you might get bad news from home. I see you with trembling hand opening the telegram saying: "George is dying," or "Fannie is dead—come home!" Oh, as you sit in train stunned with the calamity, going home, you will have no taste for fine scenery, or for conversation, and yet you must keep your thoughts employed, or you will go stark mad. Then you will want a Bible, whether you need it or not. It will be a comfort to have it near you—that book full of promises which have comforted other people in like calamity. Whether you study the promises or not, you will want that book near you. Am I not wise when I say put in the Bible?

Now, you are all ready to start. You have your valise in the right hand and you have your blanket and shawl strap in the left hand. Good-by! May you have a prosperous journey; large sales—great percentages. Oh, there is one thing I forgot to ask you about! What train are you going to take? "Well," you say, "I will take the 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon train." Why "Oh," you say, "I shall save a day by that, and on Monday morning I will be in the distant city, in the commercial establishment by the time the merchants come down." My brother, you are starting wrong. If you clip off something from the Lord's day, the Lord will clip off something from your lifetime successes. Sabbath-breaking pays no better for this world than it pays for the next. There was a large establishment in New York that said to a young man: "We want you to start tomorrow afternoon—Sunday afternoon—at 5 o'clock for Pittsburg." "Oh," replied the young man, "I never travel on Sunday." "Well," said the head of the firm, "you must go; we have got to make time and you must go to-morrow afternoon at 5 o'clock." The young man said: "I can't go, it is against my conscience, I can't go." "Well," said the head man of the firm, "then you will have to lose your situation; there are plenty of men who would like to go." The temptation was too great for the young man and he succumbed to it. He obeyed orders. He left on the 5 o'clock train Sunday afternoon for Pittsburg. Do you want the sequel in very short metre? That young man has gone down into a life of dissipation. What has become of the business firm? Bankrupt—one of the firm a confirmed gambler. Out of every week get twenty-four hours for yourself. Your employer, young man, has no right to swindle you out of that rest. The bitter curse of Almighty God will rest upon that commercial establishment which expects its employes to break the Sabbath. What right has a Christian merchant to sit down in church on the Sabbath when his clerks are traveling abroad through the land on that day? Get up, professed Christian merchant, so acting. You have no business here. Go out and call that boy back.

There was a merchant in 1837 who wrote: "I should have been a dead man had it not been for the Sabbath. Obliged to work from morning until night through the whole week, I felt on Saturday afternoon, that I must have rest. It was like going into a dense fog. Everything looked dark and gloomy as if nothing could be saved. I dismissed all and kept the Sabbath in the old way. On Monday it was all sunshine, but had it not been for the Sabbath I have no doubt I should been in my grave." Now, I say if the Sabbath is good for the employer, it is good for the employe. Young man, the dollar that you earn on the Sabbath is a red-hot dollar; and if you put it into a bag with five thousand honest dollars, that red-hot dollar will burn a hole through the bottom of the bag, and let out all the five thousand honest dollars with it.

But I see you change your mind, and you are going on Monday morning, and I see you take the train—Pennsylvania, or the Baltimore & Ohio, or the Hudson River, or the Erie, or the Harlem, or the New Haven train. For a few weeks now you will pass half of your time in the rail train. How are you going to occupy the time? Open the valise and take out a book and begin to read. Magnificent opportunities have our commercial travelers for gaining information above all other clerks and merchants. The best place in the world to study is a rail train. I know it by experience. Do not do as some commercial travelers do—as many of them do as most of them do—sit reading the same newspaper over and over again, and all the advertisements through and through; then sit for two or three hours calculating the profits they expect to make; then spending two or three hours looking listlessly out of the window; then spending three or four hours in the smoking car, the nastiest place in Christendom, talking with men who do not know as much as you do. Instead of that, call William Shakespeare, the dramatist, and John Ruskin, the essayist, and Tennyson, the poet, and Bancroft and Macaulay, the historians, and Ezekiel and Paul, the inspired men of God, and ask them to sit with you, and talk with you, as they will if you ask them. I hear you say: "I do wish I could get out of this business of commercial traveling; I don't like it." My brother, why don't you read yourself out? Give me a young man of ordinary intellect and good eyesight, and let him devote to valuable reading the time not actually occupied in commercial errand, and in six years he will be qualified for any position for which he is ambitious.

"Oh," you say, "I have no taste for reading." Now, that is the trouble, but it is no excuse. There was a time, my brother, when you had no taste for cigars, they made you very sick, but you persevered until cigars have become to you a luxury. Now, if you can afford to struggle on to get a bad habit, is it not worth while to struggle on to get a good habit like that of reading? I am amazed to find how many merchants and commercial travelers preserve their ignorance from year to year, notwithstanding all their opportunities. It was well illustrated by one who had been largely successful, and who wanted the show of a library at home, and he wrote to a book merchant in London, saying: "Send me six feet of theology, and about as much metaphysics, and near a yard of civil law in old folio!" There is no excuse for a man lacking information, if he have the rare opportunities of a commercial traveler. Improve your mind. Remember the "Learned Blacksmith," who, while working the bellows, set his book up against the brickwork, and became acquainted with fifty languages. Remember the scholarly Gifford, who, while an apprentice, wrought out the arithmetical problem with his awl on a piece of leather. Remember Abercombie, who snatched here and there a fragmentary five minutes from an exhausting profession, and wrote immortal treatises on ethics.

Be ashamed to sell foreign fabrics or fruits unless you know something about the looms that wove them, or the vineyards that grew them. Understand all about the laws that control commercial life; about banking; about tariffs; about markets; about navigation; about foreign people—their characteristics and their political revolutions as they affect guns; about the harvests of Russia, the vineyards of Italy, the tea fields of China. Learn about the great commercial centers of Carthage and Assyria, and Phoenicia. Read all about the Medici of Florence, mighty in trade, mightier in philanthropies. You belong to the royal family of merchants—be worthy of that royal family. Oh, take my advice, and turn the years of weariness into years of luxury. Take those hours you spend at railway depot, waiting for the delayed train, and make them Pisgah heights from which you can view the promised land. When you are waiting for the train, hour after hour in the depot, do not spend your time reading the sewing machine advertisements, and looking up the time-tables of routes you will never take, going the twentieth time to the door to see whether the train is coming, bothering the ticket agent and telegraph operator with questions which you ask merely because you want to pass away the time. But rather summon up the great essayists and philosophers and story-tellers and thinkers of the ages, and have them entertain you.

But you have come now near the end of your railroad travel. I can tell by the motion of the car that they are pulling the patent brakes down. The engineer rings the bell at the crossing. The train stops. "All out!" cries the conductor. You dismount from the train. You reach the hotel. The landlord is glad to see you—very glad. He stretches out his hand across the registry book with all the disinterested warmth of a brother. You are assigned an apartment. In that uninviting apartment you stay only long enough to make yourself presentable. You descend then into the reading room, and there you will find the commercial travelers sitting around a long table, with a great elevation in the center covered with advertisements; while there are inkstands sunken in the bed of the table, and scattered all around rusty steel pens and patches of blotting paper. Of course you will not stay there. You saunter out among the merchants. You present your letters of introduction and authority. You begin business. Now, let me say there are two or three things you ought to remember. First, that all the trade you get by the practice of "treating" will not stick. If you cannot get custom except by tipping a wine glass with somebody you had better not get his custom. An old commercial traveler gives as his experience that trade goten by "treating" always damages the house that gets it, in one way or the other. Beside that, you cannot afford to injure yourself for the purpose of benefiting your employers. Your common sense tells you that you cannot get into the habit of taking strong drink to please others, without getting that habit fastened on you. I do not know whether to tell it or not. I think I will. A close carriage came to the door of my church in Brooklyn one night, at the close of a religious service. Some one said: "A gentleman in that carriage wants to see you." I looked into the carriage, and there sat as fine a salesman and as elegant a gentleman as New York ever saw; but that night he was intoxicated. He said he wanted to put himself under my care. He said he had left home and he never meant to go back again. I got into the carriage with him, rode with him until after midnight, trying to persuade him to go home. I have been scores of times to Greenwood, following the dead; but that was the most doleful ride I ever took. After midnight I persuaded him to go home. We alighted at his door. We walked through his beautiful hall, his wife and daughter standing back affrighted at his appearance. I took him to his room. I undressed him. I put him to bed. Where is that home now? All broken up. Where are the wife and daughter? Gone to the desolations of widowhood and orphanage. Where is the man himself? Dead by the violence of his own hand. O commercial traveler, though your firm may give you the largest salary of any man in your line, though they might give you 10 per cent of all you sell, or 20 per cent, or 50 per cent, or 99 per cent, they cannot pay enough to make it worth your while to ruin your soul. Beside that, a commercial house never compensates a man who has been morally ruined in their employ. A young man in Philadelphia was turned out from his employ because of inebriation, gotten in the service of the merchant who employed him, and here is the letter he wrote to his employer:

"Sir: I came into your service uncorrupt in principles and in morals; but the rules of your house required me to spend my evenings at places of public entertainment and amusement in search of customers. To accomplish my work in your service, I was obliged to drink with them, and join them in their pursuits of pleasure. It was not my choice, but the rule of the house. I went with them to the theatre and the billiard table; but it was not my choice. I did not wish to go; I went in your service. It was not my pleasure so to do; but I was the conductor and companion of the simple ones, void alike of understanding and of principle, in their sinful pleasures and deeds of deeper darkness, that I might retain them as your customers. Your interest required it. I have added thousands of dollars to the profits of your trade, but at what expense you now see, and I know it well. You have become wealthy, but I am poor indeed; and now this cruel dismissal from your employ is the recompense I receive for a character ruined and prospects blasted in behalf to make you a rich man!" Alas! for the man who gets such a letter as that.

Again, I charge you, tell the whole truth about anything you sell. Lying commercial travelers will precede you. Lying commercial travelers will come right after you into the same store. Do not let unfair competition tempt you from the straight line. It is an awful bargain that a man makes when he sells his goods and his soul at the same time. A young man in one of the stores of New York was selling some silks. He was binding them up when he said to the lady customer: "It is my duty to show you that there is a fracture in that silk." She looked at it and rejected the goods. The head man of the firm, hearing of it, wrote to the father of the young man in the country, saying: "Come and take your son away; he will never make a merchant." The father came in agitation, wondering what his boy had been doing, and the head man of the firm said: "Why, your son stood here at this counter and pointed out a fracture in the silk, and of course the lady wouldn't take it. We are not responsible for the ignorance of customers; customers must look out for themselves. Your son will never make a merchant." "Is that all?" said the father. "Ah! I am prouder of my boy than I ever was. John, get your hat and come home."

But it is almost night and you go back to the hotel. Now comes the mighty tug for the commercial traveler. Tell me where he spends his evenings and I will tell you where he will spend his eternity, and I will tell you what will be his worldly prospects. There is an abundance of choice. There is your room with the books. There are the Young Men's Christian association rooms. There are the week-night services of the Christian churches. There is the gambling saloon. There is the theatre. There is the house of infamy. Plenty of places to go to. But, which, O immortal man, which? O God, which? "Well," you say, "I guess I will —I guess I will go to the theatre." Do you think the tarrying in that place until 11 o'clock at night will improve your bodily health, or your financial prospects, or your eternal fortune? No man ever found the path to usefulness, or honor, or happiness, or commercial success, or heaven, through the American theatre. "Well," you say, "I guess then I will go to the saloon." You will first go to look. Then you will go to play. You will make $100, you will make $500, you will make $1,000, you will make $1,500—then you will lose all. Then you will borrow some money, so as to start anew. You will make $50, you will make $200, you will make $500—then you will lose all. These wretches of the gambling saloon know how to tempt you. But mark this—all gamblers die poor. They may make fortunes—great fortunes—but they lose them.

"Well," you say, "if I can't go to the theatre, and if I can't go to the gambling saloon, then I guess—I guess I will go to the house of infamy." Commercial travelers have told me that in the letter box at the hotel, within one hour after their arrival they have had letters of evil solicitation in that direction. Far be it from me to tell you all I will know it. Commercial travelers have sometimes gone in that evil path. Why not you? Halt! There are other gates of ruin through which a man may go and yet come out; but that gate has a spring lock which snaps him in forever! He who goes there is damned already. He may seem to be comparatively free for a little while, but the fangs are in the victim, and the Satanic police have their eyes upon him to bring him in at any moment. The hot curse of God is on that crime, and because of it there are men whose heaven is hell, and their hell is worse. There is no danger that they be lost, they are lost now. I look through the glaring eyeballs down into the lowest cavern of hell. Oh, demon spirit, why comest thou in here strayed from thy home? Dost think I have the power to break open the barred gateway of the penitentiary of the damned? There is a passage in Proverbs I suppose what startled me at first years ago, but I do not hesitate long: "At the window of my house I looked through my casement, and beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths a young man void of understanding, passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house, in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks, till a dart strike through his liver."

But now the question is all open: Where will you spend your evenings? O commercial travelers, how much will you give me to put you on the right track? Without charging you a farthing I will prescribe for you a plan which will save you for this world and the next if you will take it. Go before you leave for the Young Men's Christian association of the city where you live. Get from them letters of introduction. Carry them out to the towns and cities where you go. If there is no association in the place you visit, then present them at the door of Christian churches, and hand them over to the pastors.

Be not slow to arise in the devotional meetings. I am a commercial traveler! I am far away from home, and I come in here to-night to seek Christian society." The best houses and the highest style of amusement will open before you, and instead of your being dependent upon the leprous crew who hang around the hotels, wanting to show you all the slums of the city, you will get the best society you ever enjoyed. Lying commercial travelers will come right after you into the same store. Do not let unfair competition tempt you from the straight line. It is an awful bargain that a man makes when he sells his goods and his soul at the same time. A young man in one of the stores of New York was selling some silks. He was binding them up when he said to the lady customer: "It is my duty to show you that there is a fracture in that silk." She looked at it and rejected the goods. The head man of the firm, hearing of it, wrote to the father of the young man in the country, saying: "Come and take your son away; he will never make a merchant." The father came in agitation, wondering what his boy had been doing, and the head man of the firm said: "Why, your son stood here at this counter and pointed out a fracture in the silk, and of course the lady wouldn't take it. We are not responsible for the ignorance of customers; customers must look out for themselves. Your son will never make a merchant." "Is that all?" said the father. "Ah! I am prouder of my boy than I ever was. John, get your hat and come home."

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But now the question is all open: Where will you spend your evenings? O young men, with bandaged eyes, and sitting with his back to a blackboard, would announce off-hand the sum of a row of figures, or the square of a cube of figures written upon the board by any one from the audience.

There are several ways of doing the trick, all depending upon a concealed confederate who can see the figures and signal to the blindfolded second-seer.

By one method a speaking tube runs from a little box at the footlights to the ear of the blindfolded lady.

Still another method employs a pneumatic piston under the foot of the blindfolded girl, worked by a hollow tube connected with a bulb at a distance.

M. Robert Heller employs an electric signal. The concealed confederate pushes the button, using the Morse alphabet. The blindfolded lady does the rest.

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites is pure and palatable.

For years it has been used for coughs and colds, for consumption for those whose blood is thin or colorless, whose systems are emaciated or run down.

For children it means health and strength, stronger bones and teeth, and food for the growing mind.

Baby gains in weight and thrives when Scott's Emulsion is added to its milk.

50c. and $1.00, all druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

"SECOND SIGHT" ON THE STAGE.

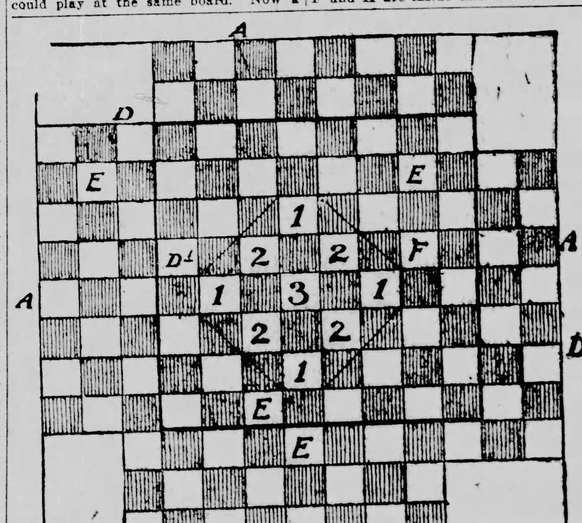
The stage trick called "second sight" has been a favorite with conjurers since the time of Robert Houdin. Houdin's

FOUR-HANDED CHECKERS.

A Chicago Man Has Invented a Board on Which Four Can Play.

Many a man has sat near a checker board watching two contestants at work on a game, whose fingers have itched to make a move the players would not see. In fact, few games are played where outside advice is not too plentiful for comfort. One man recently patented a device by means of which three players could play at the same board. Now a Chicago man comes to the front with a board which admits of four contestants, says the Chronicle. The Englewood board admits of two men playing partners against the other two or all "going it alone."

This four-handed checker board differs radically from the old style, or the three-handed board. The latter has sets of squares outside the old board so arranged that the players can invade each other's territory at will. The new board has a double row of squares outside the old with a central square or goal. These rectangular spaces or wings are designated A A A A by the designer, as is shown by the accompanying cut. The squares are arranged in parallel rows in alternate colors as in the old board. The black squares are indicated by D and the white by E. Looking at the squares obliquely it will be seen that black and white squares in continuous rows. Inside the wings is a similar arrangement of black and white squares, which the inventor, Frank F. Gibford, calls the infield. Its squares run in right, left and oblique lines with the wings. King rows F and H are inside this and in the center is a goal which may be circular or decorated fancifully.



The king rows are colored in tints differing from the ordinary checker squares, but serves much the same purpose. The game runs up to ten points in the goal, the player who makes this number first winning. The rules of the game are those of ordinary checkers, the object being to cut down the enemy while advancing one's men by the usual moves and jumps.

BISCO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION

MINES OF JAPAN.

The development of the mining industries in Japan since the termination of that country's last war has been a rapid one and Japan now furnishes considerable quantities of precious and useful metals. The gold production since 1893 has risen almost fivefold since and in 1898 reached the yield of 28,500 ounces. The nineteen existing gold mines are partly in the emperor's possession, partly in that of private parties. Nikko bids fair to become the center of the gold production. Silver is precious metals, since, besides gold, strongly argentiferous lead ores have been found. By virtue of the Japanese laws foreigners are not permitted to participate in the mining undertakings.

Silver is found in forty-five places in Japan and in 1896 afforded a yield of 1,500,000 ounces, which is equal to an increase of almost 650,000 ounces since 1893.

Very considerable is the copper production of Japan, there being at present seventy mines. During the fiscal year ended June 30 last, 3,000,000 catties, or about 500,000 centners, of copper, valued at $3,000,000 tons, or 1,000,000 were exported. Since 1878 the copper production has increased almost ninefold. Most copper is sent to Hong Kong, then to China and to England, the total exported amounting to 60,000 centners, or e. five-sevenths of the whole production.

Coal mining has, since the war, risen about 1,600,000 tons and in 1897 more than 2,000,000 tons of coal valued at $1,000,000 were exported. Altogether there are 120 coal mines, of which, however, only about fifty are of importance. The most productive is the Miike mine in the province of Chikugo, which yields 600,000 tons per annum. A new coal field was discovered in 1896 and work has now been commenced on it. It is situated in the province of Iburi, on the river Mukawa, and is said to contain 40,000,000 tons above and 20,000,000 tons below the level of the sea. Aside from this last discovery, however, it has been computed that the coal deposits of Japan, at the present rate of production, will be exhausted in forty-five years.

A TASTEFUL DAINTY.

Angels on horseback is the name by which they are known, and they are as welcome as angels indeed to the jaded palate. Required: Twelve oysters, twelve thin pieces of bacon, twelve rounds of fried bread, a lemon, a little lemon juice or bread and trim each oyster, put them and their liquor into a saucepan, bring them to the boil, and then strain them. Lay the slices of bacon very thin, about two inches long by one and one-half inches wide.

Place an oyster on each piece of bacon, sprinkle on it a little cayenne and lemon juice, then roll it up in the bacon. Lay the roll on a small round of fried bread, put on a baking tin in a quick oven and cook till the bacon is a nice pale brown color. Then serve very hot.

Led Astray.

"Here," shouted the bailiff, "you can't gun here. These are private grounds."

"But I thought she was the open season for quarry," protested the sportsman.—Philadelphia North American.

A New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, etc.—Free.

Mr. R. C. Wood, Lowell, Ind.

Disorders of the Kidneys and Bladder cause Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Gravel, Pain in the Back, Bladder Disorders, difficult or too frequent passing water, Dropsy, etc. For these diseases a Positive Specific Cure is found in a new botanical discovery, the wonderful KAVA-KAVA Shrub, called by botanists, the piper methysticum, from the Ganges River, East India. It has the extraordinary record of 1,200 hospital cures in 30 days. It acts directly on the Kidneys and cures by draining out of the Blood the poisonous Uric Acid, Urates, Lithates, etc., which cause the disease.

Professor Edward S. Pigg the Evangelist, testifies in the *Christian Advocate* that the Kava-Kava Shrub cured him in one month of severe Kidney and Bladder disease of many years' standing. Hon. R. C. Wood of Lowell, Ind., writes that in four weeks he was cured of Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder disease, after ten years suffering. The bladder trouble was so great he had to get up five to twelve times a night. Rev. Thos. M. Owen gives similar testimony. Many ladies, including Mrs. Lydia Valentine, East Worcester, N. Y.; Mrs. Maria Wall, Perry, Mich., also testify to the wonderful curative powers of Kidney and other disorders peculiar to womankind.

That you may judge of the value of this Great Discovery for yourself, we will send you one Large Case by mail FREE, only asking that when cured yourself you will recommend it to others. It is a Sure Specific and cannot fail. Address, the Church Kidney Cure Company, 409 Fourth Avenue, New York.

The Sunday School.

LESSON 10, MARCH 5, 1899.

Christ Freeing From Sin.

Golden Text: If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.—John viii:36.

John viii:12, 31-36. **Memory verses, 34-36.**

Study John viii:12-59.

12. Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

31. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

32. And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

33. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

34. Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

35. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

36. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Illustrative Applications.

I am the light of the world: He that followeth me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life (v. 12). Years back I had fallen on a most dark time. The darkness was because I was refusing to do certain things I was sure God would have me do. I would not, because the things I knew I ought were thoroughly distasteful. Also, I would not because the things I ought seemed rockily difficult. So I would not follow Christ, and, while I would not, a darkness denser and wretcheder than Egyptian fell upon me. Then at last I made surrender, I gave up conflict, I said I would attempt. Sincerely and actually I began. I never can forget the surprising change. First, I was no longer in darkness. The midnight had changed to noon, I said. Second, I found I could "Shall have the light of life," Christ says. It is a function and property of light to nourish and enable. How a thin, pale leaf gets green and lusty when the full sunlight falls upon it! It was thus with me. Entering the sunlight which blesses a real obedience, I found my courage greatened, my will strengthened, my ability enhanced. I bear testimony that this word of Christ is precisely true. I know it so by my own experience. Follow whither it seems to you Christ points, and you shall be in light instead of darkness. You shall also find that your life, under the invigorating ministry of his light, shall grow strong and glad.

If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples (v. 31). When I was a young student, I had a teacher whom I greatly loved and honored. To me he seemed an utmost man both in character and wisdom. I waited attent upon his words. I accepted them, shaped my thinking to them, strove to practice them. I was in the truest sense disciple—learner—of him. In real way I abode in his words. It is precisely thus we show our true discipleship of Jesus—when he is, in supremest sense, authoritative teacher to us, and when we make his words the horizon closing round our thinking, willing, doing.

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (v. 32). Says Mr. Lecky, speaking of ancient times: "Eclipses were supposed by the populace to foreshadow calamity; but the Roman soldiers believed that by beating drums and cymbals that could cause the moon's disk to regain its brightness." But now, since we have learned the truth about eclipses, we are free from all such fears and superstitions. It is the function of the truth thus set free by Christ to, and teaches, the truth concerning life and destiny, and much besides. When we learn, accept, practice, his truth, we become free from errors, superstitions, fears, unforgiven sins.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Every one that committeth sin is the bondservant of sin (v. 34). Here is a law of habit—"Habit diminishes feeling and increases activity." A young medical student was telling me of the first effect on many of his class of their first dissection. Their feeling against it was very strong; they could hardly endure the thought or sight of it; they turned away, some of them, violently sickened, and to use the knife, to actually do dissection, was almost an impossibility. But the young men went against their feelings, put them underfoot, seized the knife, by sheer will, and went on dissecting. Then after some days their feelings against dissections ceased, and without fear or hesitation, and with precision, they could use the knife. You see, they had gone over into the physician's habit of dissection—feeling diminished, activity increased. Here is another law of habit—"The destination of character; habit tends to become permanent, and to exclude the formation of other habits." You must see that this is true, if you will think of it. The greatest obstacle to the formation of a habit is the existence of its opposite. Apply these two sentences to the sin, but you go on committing it, and your feeling against it lessens, and your activity in it greatens. So you have formed the habit of the sin. Determine now to break the sinful habit. What is your chief, and even tremendous obstacle to the forming of a habit of righteousness? Is it not this—the existence of the already formed sinful habit? How precisely true are the words of Christ—"Every one that committeth sin is the bond-slave of sin." But, thank God! there is deliverance in Christ's forgiveness and in the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D., in Sunday School Times.

GREAT SPEECH OF ONE WORD

On the occasion of Maude Adams' three hundredth performance in New York in The Little Minister, the scenes of enthusiasm surpassed anything that had ever been known, even at the Metropolitan opera house, where audiences have gone frantic over the world's great singers. So says the National Magazine. Miss Adams was called and recalled, until her audience insisted upon her speaking to them from the stage—something which frightened her so that she rushed trembling to her dressing room. From this retreat she was finally dragged, almost by main force, to the footlights, and with one terror-stricken word of "Thanks," bowed, smiled and vanished. It was a phenomenal scene for New York in these days when "its taste runs more to hothouse grapes and lobsters that change color as they die on the broiler, to singing girls and piano players, and cynic verse of Du Sent"—to anything rather than the seriously good.

It was, however, discounted later, on the event of Miss Adams' last performance at the Madison Street theatre, Chicago, after a successful engagement of two months. In recognition of the occasion the theatre had been profusely decorated, and these in authority made several very graceful tributes to the personality of the little actress. At the close of the performance she received 84 calls and the same amount of enthusiasm as at the premier three hundredth performance in New York was repeated, even to her rushing to the dressing room and being compelled to again make her address of one word, "Thanks."

Novelmaker and Homemaker.

The most pertinent question for the pen-woman and other breadwinners of the day is answered and illustrated by Anna Katharine Green, says the Washington Post. A woman may achieve success in life, even trammeled by housewifely care; for while she keeps her house she also writes her spellbinding stories and reads current literature, as well as attending to the numerous duties of primitive anthropy. Her manner is full of the quiet repose begot by motherhood and home environments. And there, indeed, are the great absorbing elements of her life—her father, husband, children and home. All of her work is a matter of small moment compared with these, the nucleus around which her work revolves. Miss Green was born in Brooklyn, and from her father—a lawyer—she inherited the fine judicial sense and astute insight into human nature so strongly delineated in all of her books. She says that her father she received her greatest encouragement and aid, he often reviewing and criticising her books for her. Her home life in Buffalo is delightful, and she devotes more time to her husband and her three children than she does to authorship, which is the reason it takes her so long to write a book.

Except for the plot and people of "Lost Man's Lane," her stories are founded almost purely upon imagination. She dislikes to have her books as her stories and characterizes them herself as "criminal romance." Of all her writings she like "Lost Man's Lane" the best.

"ONLY A WOMAN'S HAIR."

In a note in his biography, Scott says that his friend Dr. Tuke, of Dublin, has a lock of Stella's hair enclosed in a paper by Swift, on which are written, in the Dean's hand, the words, Only a woman's hair"—an instance, says Scott, where the Dean's desire to veil his feelings under the mask of cynical indifference.—Thackeray, "The English Humorists."

"Only a woman's hair,"
'Twas thus the legend ran,
Though she whose disregarded tress,
Inscribed with words so pitiless,
Had lavished all her loveliness
To win—the scorn of man.

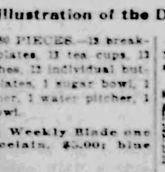
"Only a woman's hair!"
The pledge was surely given
At that sweet moment when the birth
Of love reveals what life is worth,
And passion proves the joys of earth
Can match the bliss of heaven.

"Only a woman's hair!"
Ah, cynic, all thine art
That glorious gift cannot impair,
Nor strain the love that lingers there,
Nor dim the desirable fragrance
That tuke thine aching heart.
—Edmund Craigie, in Literature.

American Palm of Life.

Let us strive, then, every minute,
At the recurring gait,
For, in order to be in it,
We have got to pay the freight.
—Chicago News.

Manly Men—



Are those who possess all the powers nature gives to the masculine sex. Our treatment will restore to you the vim, vigor and vitality you have lost, and positively cures all weaknesses of the organs and stops all unnatural drains. Don't delay, for life there is sure to be gone. Send to-day for book with full explanation and proofs, free. Write for booklet. Universal Vitalite Co., Box 28 Hammond, Ind.

BLADE IMPORTED ENGLISH CHINA

Tea Sets and Dinner Sets.

The Best Goods That Money Can Buy.

During the past few years The Blade has furnished its subscribers nearly 20,000 sets of American made china at an enormous saving of cost to the purchaser. With the return of prosperity there is a demand for better goods, from our class of readers who realize that the best is the cheapest, even though the first cost may be a trifle more. Hence the unprecedented success of our importation of fine English china. The decorations are under the glazing, and will never wear off. We offer both plain white and decorated sets. We believe the goods white can be bought for partially decorated, as there is nothing so handsome as plain white china on the table of either rich or poor. To those who like decorations our selection of Blue Illuminated, with gold will please most fastidious. It is very rich and in the latest style. Our illustration in this advertisement will show the plain white goods one week, and the decorated each alternate week.

Illustration of the Decorated Tea Set.

No. 1—TEA SET, 50 PIECES—12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 cake plates, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 water pitcher, 1 pickle dish and 1 bowl.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year, white porcelain, $5.00; blue and gilt, $6.00.

No. 2—TEA SET, 56 PIECES—Assorted same as No. 1, deducting 6 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year; white porcelain, $4.00; blue and gilt, $4.90.

No. 3—DINNER SET, 112 PIECES—12 8-inch plates, 12 7-inch plates, 12 6-inch soup plates, 12 fruit plates, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 dishes, 1 baker, 1 boat, 1 pitcher, 2 dishes and 2 covers, 1 butter dish, 1 cover and drainer, 1 sugar bowl and cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 bowl, 12 tea cups and 12 saucers.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year; white porcelain, $9.10; blue and gilt, $11.60.

General Directions and Information.

Order by number, and specify white or decorated, as the case may be. The goods are carefully packed in a strong barrel and shipped directly from the importer to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1 according to distance will cover freight east of the Missouri river, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1899.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

Terms—Postage Paid:

Single copy, weekly, one year, $1.00; six months, 60 cents; three months, 30 cents. Write for club terms.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address,
THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Entered at the postoffice at Toledo as second-class mail matter.

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 170,000

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

President McKinley, in his address before the Home Market club of Boston, had an opportunity to call the attention of the thinking men of the nation to the real status of the Philippine question, which he improved. His remarks are not only timely, but they are highly important. They put the matter to the people from a point of view high above the petty squabbles of partisan politics. He looks at them from a national and humanitarian standpoint. It is a statesman's view, not a politician's.

As to the future disposition of the Philippines, he reminds the nation that it is not within the province of the President to intrude upon duties which belong to Congress. By the constitution, that body has authority to legislate for all territory belonging to the nation. It alone is responsible for the solution of the question, and the President has only the power to endorse or veto that action.

His criticism of the anti-expansionists is eminently just. The men who a year ago were shouting for war, without realizing that the consequences of a war can never be foreseen, are now shrinking back from the results which were the inevitable outcome of hostilities. They were eager to put their hands to the plow, but now turn back. On the other hand, those who last April realized that war must bring to us new and grave problems, with far-reaching consequences, and who consequently did all they could to preserve peace with honor, now accept the burden of responsibility laid upon this nation, and are seeking how to best discharge the high obligation.

It is well that the President has found opportunity to call upon the nation to consider the real situation. His logic is irresistible and irrefutable. Especially is this so with regard to what he says of the present status in the Philippines. We could not turn them back to Spain. No American will for a moment say he was in favor of that course. Nor could we compel Spain to transfer them to some other nation, nor could such a transfer have been made without the most serious international complications. The responsibilities which devolved upon us by the outcome of the war could not be discharged until the islands became ours, by conquest or treaty.

Nor could we abandon them to native anarchy, or to be seized by other nations, which would inevitably have lighted the flames of European war. The President well says these suggestions "were too shameful to be considered." And as to the immediate future, pending the action of Congress, he says:

> Until Congress shall direct otherwise, it will be the duty of the executive to possess and hold the Philippines, giving to the people thereof peace and order and beneficent government, affording them every opportunity to prosecute their lawful pursuits, encouraging them in thrift and industry, making them feel and know that we are their friends, not their enemies; that their good is our aim; that their welfare is our welfare, but that neither their aspirations nor ours can be realized until our authority is acknowledged and unquestioned.

He repels the idea that we are animated by any other design than the ultimate benefit of the people of the islands. "Our priceless principles undergo no change under a tropical sun," he says; "they go with the flat, 'Why read ye not the changeless truth—the free can conquer but to save'?"

The people of the United States can but approve the high ideals of national duty held by the President. It was a happy thought of whoever had charge of the decorations of the banquet hall to range the portraits of Washington, Lincoln and McKinley over the stage, and under them the word "Liberator." The first freed us from European domination, the second freed the slaves, and the third is the liberator of the millions of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines from the tyranny of Spain.

SPAIN'S INFAMY.

The severe lesson taught Spain the past year has checked her reign of barbarity, but has not brought her up to the civilized standard of other nations.

The announcement that her military court has determined to prosecute Admiral Cervera for the loss of his fleet at Santiago will be declared an infamous proceeding by every civilized country on the globe.

It is a matter of history that Cervera was forced out of Santiago harbor by the orders of Blanco and the Spanish cabinet. He knew that in obeying that order he was sending his fleet to certain destruction. He knew there was no chance of outrunning the American vessels, and that to fight meant annihilation.

It required a brave man to obey such orders, but Cervera, like a true soldier or sailor, never thought of disobeying orders even though he knew it meant the destruction of the fleet. He sailed out and the world knows the rest. His conduct marked him as a brave man. His movement would have been the acme of rashness had he not been obeying orders.

But this is not all. Every Spanish captain, now alive, who participated in the battles of Manila and Santiago is to be court-martialed. These men who did the best they could against the triumphant American fleets are to be tried by a military court because they failed, even though to win was an impossibility. A country which will try such men will undoubtedly convict them.

For Spain to prosecute her officers for obeying orders is outrageous. It will call down upon her the righteous indignation of the world.

Is President Loubet a Dreyfusard? That is the question which worries the army junta in Paris.

NOT FOR WAR, BUT FOR TRADE.

There are some Americans who are so hopelessly enchained by old-time ideas as to think an alliance with England means that we are to fight her battles should she come to war with some other power. They have the old idea, inherited from the Middle Ages, that nations do not combine except for territorial conquest. Living on the verge of the twentieth century, they should be enlightened enough to see that an alliance for trade extension does not involve anything beyond peaceful methods. In point of fact, as Henry Norman, the well-known correspondent of the Chicago Tribune and New York Times expresses it, "English statesmen are growing rather impatient of the American charge that the English want the United States to help them fight their European battles."

This brought from Andrew Carnegie a letter to the London Times, which assailed Mr. Norman's statement, in which he says:

> No wonder we receive this impression. Your cable dispatches this morning report Mr. Chamberlain telling the people at Birmingham that "We now see our cousins across the Atlantic entering the lists and sharing in a task which, under the circumstances, might have proved too heavy for us." I hope Mr. Norman will not think hard of the American people for believing that Mr. Chamberlain's statement is at least founded on fact. Mr. Chamberlain is reported as generally knowing what he talks about.
>
> This was a complete misconception of Mr. Chamberlain's position, and a preposterous distortion of his meaning. Mr. Carnegie's note was forwarded by Mr. Norman to Mr. Chamberlain, who promptly returned the following answer:
>
> My Dear Sir:—I have never concealed my satisfaction that the people of the United States are likely to take their part in the giant work of tropical civilization, which seems to me, in a special sense, the mission of the Anglo-Saxon race. It is, of course, a truism to say that Great Britain alone could not undertake the whole of such a task, but if Mr. Carnegie, in his endeavor to tie the United States down to that policy of national isolation and selfishness, which on this side we associate with the name of "Little Englander," means to imply that I seek the co-operation of the United States for some purely British interest, he is entirely mistaken.
>
> The old country and the colonies are perfectly able to take care of their direct interests without help from any quarter whatever, and I have not desired or spoken of co-operation except in cases where I am convinced that the interests of other nations are at least as much involved as our own.
>
> If I hope that the United States will be equal to its opportunities it is because I am a friend of the United States, and not because I am striving by underhand and insidious methods to draw them into our quarrels. J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The situation is simply this: The Chinese Empire embraces in its population one-third of the entire human race. The old empire is at the point of breaking down. There is no truly national feeling among its teeming millions. Patriotism, as Western people understand it, does not exist. All that held the country together was the policy of isolation, which kept the Chinese from trade contact with other nations. Now that this barrier is breaking down, the empire is ready to fall into ruin.

Russia, England, France and Germany have each obtained a foothold at seaports, and the interior which can be reached from each of these is the "sphere of influence" of the nation governing the port.

Russia, France and Germany stand for the "closed door." That is, they will not allow other nations to trade within their spheres of influence on equal terms with themselves. England stands for the "open door." Within her sphere of influence in China the merchants of all other countries can trade on the same terms as do British merchants.

Our trade with China has increased enormously within the past decade. It will continue to grow, if the open door is maintained. If the French and Russian policy obtains, it will be destroyed. Lord Charles Beresford, representing the great commercial organizations in England, has been to Japan, and is now in the United States, to ascertain the views of our commercial men on an alliance of Great Britain, the United States, Germany and Japan, to maintain the open door of Chinese trade.

There is in this movement no outlook for war. An alliance like that would mean peace. The demand for the open door could not and would not be resisted by France and Russia. So far as the United States is concerned, we have no desire for sovereignty over an inch of Chinese territory. We care not what flag eventually waves over this oldest of earth's empires. But we desire the liberty of trading with those teeming millions, on equal terms with the rest of the world. That is all there is in the matter of an alliance.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

M. Loubet has been elected President of the French republic, on the first ballot, without the slightest disturbance of any kind. France is to be congratulated on escaping the dangers which so many feared in the matter of choosing a successor to M. Faure.

The new chief executive of France has not a long political record, but it seems to be a good one as far as it goes. He is beyond his sixtieth year, and certainly is old enough to have learned discretion. He formed a ministry in 1892, taking himself the Ministry of the Interior. The Panama canal scandals, however, overthrew that cabinet, though no blame attached personally to him. Had his garments been smirched by that gigantic steal, he could not have been so soon made President of the Senate, which position he has filled so well as to receive the esteem of the entire body, irrespective of politics.

He is a good financier, and esteemed as a conservative and safe man. The rock ahead in his Presidential career is the position he may take regarding the Dreyfus affair. There will be no peace for French ministers and President until that monumental piece of injustice is righted. The first question of interest in connection with the new President is whether he will array himself with the army ring which is endeavoring to keep Dreyfus on Devil's Island as a scapegoat for the corruptions of its own members, or whether he will stand for justice and honor, and for the fair fame of the republic as against corrupt militarism.

The rioting in Paris is a sinister sign, but it is perhaps to be interpreted as expressive of the disappointment of that element of Paris which desired a military coup d'etat. Faure's death was so sudden and unexpected that the military chiefs had not time to mature plans for such a step.

Last week Dun's agency reported 178 failures, which were 117 less than for the corresponding week last year. And yet you can occasionally find a man who will tell you that times are no better.

Mr. Quay's trial is set for the 27th of this month. The Senator will be wise not to permit a further postponement.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Affairs are moving along as well as one can expect in the Philippines. The Filipinos are driven into the jungles, both at Manila and Iloilo. Their fortifications have been taken, their artillery is captured, except some small field pieces.

The Washington authorities announce that the campaign is to be pushed vigorously. The islands are not to be left to disorder and anarchy. As soon as the gunboats now on the way reach Manila, Admiral Dewey will begin an active campaign.

One must not fall into the error of supposing that the Filipinos in all the thousand islands of the group are up in arms. The smaller islands, and the interior of the larger one, were never under Spanish rule, except in a nominal way. For nearly 400 years Spain claimed sovereignty over the Philippines, but she never civilized the Tagalos, Visayans, and other native tribes. A fringe of semi-civilization was created around the shores of the larger islands, the centres of which are at the seaports.

Manila and Iloilo are the two largest cities in the group, and they were the centres of the Filipino movement. Both are now in our possession, and it seems as though regularly organized opposition to the Americans is about over. All the insurgents can do is to carry on a guerilla warfare from the interior jungles. Dewey's fleet will prevent their receiving fresh supplies of arms and ammunition. The insurrection will necessarily die out, especially with an active campaign waged against it. Then it will be proper to discuss the future of the islands. As the President said in his Boston speech, "it is not a good time for the liberator to submit important questions to the liberated while they are engaged in shooting down their rescuers."

FRANCE'S ACTIVITY.

The feeling in the British foreign office is that France is exercising her diplomacy in the way of allowing the matters in dispute to drag along until after the Paris exposition of next year. Meantime she is arming herself, and the French arsenals, shipyards and naval stations are the scenes of ceaseless activity.

The question is looming up before Great Britain whether she will wait until France is ready for war, or force diplomatic negotiations to the point at which France must either submit or declare war.

The latest "pin-prick" is the attempt to secure coaling stations at Muscat and Raheita, on the Persian Gulf. The Sultan of Oman, in whose territory these places are, is a tributary of the British Empire, and receives a subsidy from the English government. But French diplomacy came near succeeding, for all that. Had it not been that a British man of war was in the harbor of Muscat, and threatened to seize the port, the Sultan would have yielded to French intrigue.

As matters are developing, the long-looked for European war may break out between England and France. The all-important question is whether Russia will stand by the latter. If she does, then all the burning questions of European diplomacy, which have made her an armed camp for more than half a century, will be settled by the conflict. If Russia is not ready, France will be compelled to yield, and the day of reckoning be postponed until a later time.

BERESFORD'S MISSION.

Lord Charles Beresford is in the United States. He is an admiral of the British navy, who comes to us as the "commissioner of the associated chambers of commerce of England." His unique mission here is to ascertain the sentiments of business organizations in the United States on the subject of an alliance between England, Germany, Japan and the United States, for the purpose of maintaining the "open door" in the Orient.

It is usual to go directly to the government through diplomatic channels for such a purpose. Lord Charles Beresford, however, does not represent the British government. He comes as the envoy of English commercial bodies to similar organizations in the United States. That he should come on this errand shows how close together the people of England and America have been drawn by recent events, and what a broad unity of interests exists in the two countries. The importance to the trade of the United States of the "open door" policy in the Orient is so great that we are glad he has undertaken this mission. It will rouse our people to a recognition of the magnitude to which their best interests are involved.

AN AMERICAN IDEA.

Our English cousins have found one thing in our legislative system which they freely admit is superior to their own plan. It is the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House and that on Foreign Relations in the Senate. Lord Salisbury has lamented his inability to have the same privilege as has our secretary of state, of imparting information, which the best interests of the nation require to be kept secret for a time, to a committee on foreign affairs, composed of members of both parties.

In Parliament, the opposition openly interrogates the members of the ministry on the floor, and the latter must either refuse to answer or state facts which it would be better not to make public. There is no reason the American plan shall not be adopted by Parliament, unless it is the intense conservatism of the English. The London press is urging the change, and it may be adopted some time within the next quarter of a century.

THE NICARAGUA BILL.

The attempt failed to place the bill for the construction of the Nicaragua canal in the sundry civil appropriation bill as an amendment. After a vigorous debate in committee of the whole, the chair ruled against it on a point of order. An appeal was taken from this decision, and the chair was sustained.

This ends the hope of passing this measure in the present Congress. The Spanish war showed the American people the necessity of this inter-oceanic canal. They are in favor of it. If the President finds it necessary to convene the next Congress in extra session in March, it is to be hoped that body will take up the Nicaragua canal bill and pass it promptly.

A battle between Russians and Chinese at Talien Wan, in which 300 of the latter are reported killed, is the news that comes from Pekin, and is of the gravest import. If Russia has at last made up her mind to move, the century will end in the midst of a most gigantic war.

There are more than 775,000 persons enrolled in the Sunday schools of Ohio. A mighty army is this, and it wields a powerful moral influence in the state.

SHUTTING THE OPEN DOOR.

The mission of Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford to the United States is to get the trend of public opinion, and especially that of Americans interested in commerce, as to the propriety of a commercial alliance between the United States and Great Britain, together with Germany and Japan, to preserve the "open door" of trade in China.

France and Russia stand for the "shut door" policy. That is, they will not allow any other nation to trade in their respective spheres of influence in China any further than they can help. The effect of this policy is clearly illustrated by a report from the consul of the United States, Mr. Thackara, at Havre, France, in which he speaks of the wonderful success of a loan offered in France to be used in building railroads in the French colony of Indo-China, which lies east of Siam and south of China proper. Consul Thackara says:

> The construction of the roads to be built under the new loan will open up a market for steel rails and other railroad material **which unfortunately cannot be utilized by our American manufacturers**, as, according to the terms of article 4 of the law of Dec. 25, 1898, creating the loan, all material necessary for the construction of the above-mentioned railroads not found in Indo-China must be of French origin and must be carried in vessels flying the French flag.

That illustrates the difference between the open door and the shut door of trade. France has shut up her Indo-Chinese colony for the benefit of her own trade. If she and Russia are allowed to divide China up into "spheres of influence," American trade in the Orient will be destroyed, instead of indefinitely expanding.

THAT TWENTY MILLIONS.

The unexpected happened in the House of Representatives Thursday. Mr. Wheeler, a Kentucky Democrat, raised the point of order that the item in the sundry civil appropriation bill carrying the $20,000,000 to be paid to Spain under the terms of the treaty, was not in order, because the treaty was not yet ratified by Spain. His point was that no obligation exists on the part of the United States until both nations have ratified the treaty and the ratifications have been formally exchanged.

This point was debated for hours, and finally the item was stricken out. No one seems to have thought that an amendment, stipulating that the appropriation should not be available until the exchange of ratifications, would have avoided the point made by the Kentucky Democrat against it.

Of course Wheeler's objection was simply a bit of parliamentary obstructive tactics. It merely delays matters. It can not defeat the treaty, nor prevent the appropriation from being made. It was an exhibition of base partisanism, without any reason beyond that. When one compares the present attitude of the Democrats in House and Senate with their patriotic conduct last spring, when every man voted to sustain the administration without regard to politics, he can but deplore the renascence of the most bitter partisan feeling. The "war Congress" is destroying, in its closing days, the reputation for broad patriotism it so handsomely made less than a year ago.

AN EXTRA SESSION.

The policy of obstruction which is being followed by the opponents of the administration in the Senate will compel the calling of the Fifty-sixth Congress in extra session. The main cause will be the failure to pass the army reorganization bill. The Republicans, not being in a majority in the Senate of the present Congress, the opposition is holding up the army bill. Unless this policy is abandoned, and a proper bill passed, it will be a necessity to convene the next Congress to do the work which the present one should have accomplished.

The volunteers desire to come home. Their friends are anxious for their return. Their terms of enlistment will expire when the ratifications of the peace treaty by the two governments are exchanged. So also will the terms of those regulars, enlisted in excess of the 25,000 for which the law provided before the Spanish war began. The makeshift is proposed by the Democrats of extending the appropriations on the basis of the present organization. This would not help the matter, for no law of Congress can compel the men to remain in the army after their terms of enlistment have expired. No matter how great the emergency, the men would have to be mustered out, if they desired it. And they do desire it.

There is no way out except to call the next Congress in extra session, if the present one is prevented from doing its plain duty by the marplots in the Senate.

DEWEY FOR ADMIRAL.

The Senate has passed a bill to revive the grade of Admiral of the Navy. It is of course intended that the rank shall be conferred upon Rear Admiral Dewey. The whole country will assent to this with enthusiasm. We have had no naval hero to equal him in popularity since the days of Farragut and Porter. They were the only two who have ranked as full admirals, and the grade was established to give them honor, precisely as the bill now before Congress proposes to revive it to honor Dewey.

The House should not fail to pass this bill before adjournment. The people of the United States expect it. It contains one provision which, rightly interpreted, is of itself a high compliment to Dewey himself. It exempts him from the operations of the retiring law, except upon his own application. This saves his services to the country for a number of years to come, and attributes to him the patriotic good sense of being able to decide when the infirmities of age render it a duty to the nation that he should ask to be placed on the retired list.

POYNTER'S BRILLIANT IDEA.

Poynter, the fusionist governor of Nebraska, shows his utter lack of military knowledge in the plan he advocates for supplying the places of the volunteer troops now in active service, who, he thinks, should be sent home at once. He proposes that other volunteer regiments be enlisted to relieve those in the field!

Quite ingenious, the idea of sending raw troops to do the work now being done by men who have had months of drill and training, and who are reasonably acclimated. It is on a par with some other ideas of Poynter's school of politics. We should have a repetition of the camp fevers of last summer among the raw troops, and the mourners over dead soldiers would prove an eloquent tribute to the asininity of the Nebraska man.

Peanut politics seems to have many devotees among the Democrats in congress just now.

IT HAD 30 MAJORITY.

A number of papers, in their headlines over the ratification of the peace treaty, stated that it had "but one majority." This is incorrect.

The constitution requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Senators present in order to ratify a treaty. There were 84 Senators present when the vote was taken. Two-thirds of that number is 56. The vote was 57 years to 27 nays.

Hence the treaty had one more vote than the necessary two-thirds, but it is incorrect to speak of it as a "majority" of one. There were 30 more votes for the treaty than against it, therefore it had a majority of 30. It is just as well to use the word majority in its proper sense. It means the number of votes in excess.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The President's Speech.

President McKinley's speech at Boston is received with the deepest interest. It is a carefully prepared statement of executive views on subjects of a novel nature and commanding importance. The President has infused in this address his inmost thought and treated every theme with heartfelt candor. He has nothing to conceal from the people and turns to them as the arbiter of national questions, adding that he knows of "no better or safer human tribunal." The address shows that the President has no personal programme to be urged upon the people in advance of their own deliberate judgment. Ever since the war with Spain began the President's duties have often required him, under the constitution, to take the initiative. It devolved upon him to shape campaigns and direct the movements of army and navy. The work was well done. In framing the treaty his guiding hand was essential, and the treaty, also, amply satisfies the people. Within his own province the President has met every obligation with complete success. Now he leaves to Congress the duty devolving upon it under the constitution of legislating for the future of the Philippines.

The Navy Bill.

The passage of the navy personnel bill by the United States senate will gratify every one who has the welfare of that branch of the service at heart. The amendments made were few and unimportant. Doubtless they will readily be accepted by the House and the bill will soon be in the President's hands. The need for this measure has been frequently discussed, and at this time it is only necessary to say that it does away with evils that have long tended to mar the efficiency of a navy of which all are justly proud.

The Pacific Cable.

As might be expected, the ratification of the treaty of peace with Spain has renewed interest in the project of a Pacific cable which seemed to slumber for some time before the outbreak of the late hostilities over the Cuban question. The question has been again brought to the front by President McKinley in a special message to Congress. The President in his message directs attention to the fact that as a consequence of the ratification of the treaty of peace the United States will come into possession of the Philippine Islands, on the further shores of the Pacific, and that owing to the fact that the Hawaiian Islands and Guam Island have become United States territory and form convenient stopping places on the way across the sea, the necessity for speedy cable communication between the United States and all these Pacific islands has become imperative. In the view of the President such communication should be established in such a way as to be under the control of the United States whether in time of peace or war.

France's Presidential Crisis.

The sudden death of President Faure, of France, was one of the sensations of the week. Though he did not loom up before the people as a political figure of the first rank as regards capacity, he yet made a very respectable chief of the state and fulfilled a very useful function at a time when qualities such as he possessed were of great service to his people. Among a people and under a form of government where conservatism was a much needed force he represented the conservative elements of the republic.

All lovers of justice and republicanism will sincerely rejoice and congratulate France upon the election of Emile Loubet by the national assembly as president to succeed M. Faure. The nation has preserved an exceptional tranquility, and the army chiefs long suspected of a conspiracy in favor of a coup d'etat have not made the faintest sign of revolt. The activity of the royalists and Bonapartists has been of the perfunctory kind. The indications are that France has successfully averted a perilous crisis. The consequences of the sudden change in the presidency bid fair to prove positively beneficial. President Loubet is a worthy successor of Thiers, MacMahon, Grevy, Casimir-Perier and Carnot. He will inspire far more respect than Faure was able to command, and he will stand for justice and the constitution.

Lord Charles Beresford's Mission.

Lord Charles Beresford has been making a triumphal progress across the country, having been received at every city of importance with honor and distinction. He said to a reporter:

> "I had expected the American people to take kindly to the idea of a commercial alliance, that would lead to a better understanding in the far east and contribute to the development of better trade relations, but I cannot say that I was prepared for the enthusiastic reception have received thus far from the sections of the United States have visited."

Lord Beresford declared with emphasis that he believed the community of interest needed for the maintenance of open ports of China and the restriction of "spheres of influence" would be secured. "I base my opinion of the success of this venture," said he, "not only on the enthusiasm displayed by American commercial bodies since my arrival, but from the letters and telegrams received from prominent men throughout the United States. Even while in China studying this subject, I received letters from prominent Americans.

"I find a difference of sentiment with reference to one phase of the proposition I am attempting to promote. That refers to the form of alliance between the nations that will undertake to guarantee the integrity of the Chinese Empire. I have met many Americans who are unqualifiedly in favor of an alliance for defensive and offensive purposes, while others seem to prefer an amicable understanding between these powers, but not a formal agreement. The latter argue that the results can be obtained as well through a friendly understanding as by a formal treaty.

"This is a question that will bear careful discussion. My study of the proposition in the Orient leads me to conclude that a formal alliance is the proper manner in which the subject should be handled. Community of interests is the mainspring of all national alliances. The subject matter for a community of action between America, England and Germany and Japan certainly exists. If a formal alliance is entered into between these nations it will be a notice to the civilized world of their determination to act in behalf of China.

"Still, I am satisfied that an informal alliance, with the same objects in view, is preferable to the present situation. The present arrangement in China cannot long endure, in my estimation. In fact, the status quo is not being maintained today. Russia is encroaching beyond its recognized sphere of influence. So are the French and perhaps the English.

"Some of the nations, notably France and Russia, are not satisfied with trade. They want territory. England stands out to-day as the grand exponent of unrestricted trade. The open door is our hobby. Trade, not territory, in China is what the English people to-day want.

"America has some trade in that section of the world, but her trade is small in China, and unless something is done soon to protect it there will be none left. The interests of the republic in the Philippines make it imperative that the American people take interest in the Chinese question.

"I favor any alliance, short of provoking actual hostilities in the Orient, to attain these ends. To delay longer is dangerous to the peace of the world. I consider the proposed alliance conducive to the world's peace. These nations can guarantee it, and really I do not think France and Russia would object seriously to such an arrangement when assured of fair treatment."

Readers of The Blade will find in the Question Bureau, on the 2d page of this issue, further light on the matter.

Damage From the Cold Wave.

It often happens that the first reports of untoward happenings contain elements of exaggeration which are eliminated upon a closer view of conditions, and this seems to be the case with the recent widespread blizzard. It now appears that the damage wrought by the storm was less than was at first expected in the northern part of the country, but that the effects were more destructive in the south, particularly as regards the growing fruit and vegetable crops, though even there the serious damage was not so widespread as was at first thought. The reports as to the loss of cattle in the west are conflicting, though not on the whole pointing to any serious damage, and reliable accounts as to the injury to the winter-wheat crop are not available. The weather conditions have, however, undeniably checked transportation, a condition observable in every department of distributive trade, and reflected notably in the drop in wheat and flour shipments and in the light receipts of cotton for last week. Even the reports of damage, however, do not lack features which reveal an underlying feeling of buoyancy.

Business Situation.

Nothing has occurred during the week calculated to disturb or in any way weaken the feeling of confidence that has for some time been dominating business operations. In a broad way, the situation is all that could be reasonably desired. From every department of trade come reports which show that general business is broadening out, and this means increased profits for the producer, the manufacturer, the jobber and the merchant. The set-back caused by the recent cold wave seems to have been much less serious than might naturally have been expected. The rise in temperature has been followed by a revival of spring trade preparations, and from all accounts the ground lost already has been practically recovered.

The foreign trade balance continues to run largely in favor of this country. Exports of breadstuffs, provisions, cotton and mineral oils last month were the largest in any January on record, with the single exception of January, 1892. The total for these four classes for the month was $74,624,147, against $73,176,865 for January, 1898. Exports of provisions amounted to $14,414,621, against $13,460,521 for the corresponding period a year ago.

Grain Prices.

The general tendency of prices for grain and provisions has been downward. Deliveries of grain from farmers gave promise of enlargement in consequence of the more favorable weather for getting it to market, while even during the severly cold weather the deliveries proved ample for all requirements. That would be sufficient to account for the moderate decline in prices, but there were other contributory causes. The drop undoubtedly would have been severe had it not been for the buoyancy and hopefulness pervading the commercial atmosphere on account of the abundance of loanable funds and the persistency with which Wall street securities maintain their recent great advance.

As regards wheat more especially, there was still another reason why it did not decline more decisively in view of increasing domestic stocks and heavier shipments to Europe from Russia and Argentina. It is feared that considerable damable damage might have been done to the winter wheat plant by the late severely cold weather. While this is by no means certain, there is sufficient doubt connected with it to put the trade in a somewhat nervous condition, and the latter is by no means lessened by the knowledge that the weather appears shaping for a dry spring. The cry of drought has already been heard from California, where they are perhaps unusually apprehensive from last season's unfortunate experience of a lack of moisture.

...THE... WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

Below is given Rudyard Kipling's famous poem. It was received by McClure's Monthly just as the magazine was being printed, and was deemed so important that the publisher inserted it instead of a frontispiece. It is reprinted by his permission:

Take up the White Man's burden—
Send forth the best ye breed—
Go, bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness,
On fluttered folk and wild—
Your new-caught sullen peoples,
Half devil and half child.

Take up the White Man's burden—
In patience to abide,
To veil the threat of terror
And check the show of pride;
By open speech and simple,
An hundred times made plain,
To seek another's profit
And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—
The savage wars of peace—
Fill full the mouth of famine,
And bid the sickness cease;
And when your goal is nearest
(The end for others sought)
Watch sloth and heathen folly
Bring all your hope to nought.

Take up the White Man's burden—
No iron rule of kings,
But toil of serf and sweeper—
The tale of common things.
The ports ye shall not enter,
The roads ye shall not tread,
Go, mark them with your living,
And mark them with your dead.

Take up the White Man's burden—
And reap his old reward—
The blame of those ye better,
The hate of those ye guard—
The cry of hosts ye humour
(Ah, slowly!) toward the light:—
"Why brought ye us from bondage,
Our loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden—
Ye dare not stoop to less—
Nor call too loud on Freedom
To cloak your weariness.
By all ye will or whisper,
By all ye do or dream,
The silent, sullen peoples
Shall weigh your God and ye.

Take up the White Man's burden—
Have done with childish days—
The lightly-proffered laurel,
The easy ungrudged praise;
Comes now, to search your manhood
Through all the thankless years,
Cold, edged with dear-bought wisdom,
The judgment of your peers.

WHEN DO THE CENTURIES BEGIN?

Toledo Daily Blade, Feb. 13.

"When will the 19th century end?"

Ask this question of your friends, and you will be surprised to find how many of them will reply, "On December 31, 1899."

And then they in turn will be surprised when you assure them they are wrong; that the century ends on December 31, 1900, and the 20th century begins with January 1, 1901.

Some of them will doubtless dispute it, even if you refer them to the fact that all scientific men, the historians and writers on chronological subjects, agree with you.

It is easy to prove it, however, to most people. Go back to the beginning of the Christian era. It began January 1, of the year 1.

Now, a century must contain 100 years. When did the first century end?

It could only have ended on December 31, A. D. 100, otherwise it would not have contained 100 years.

The 2d century began January 1, A. D. 101, and ended December 31, A. D. 200.

The 3d century began January 1, A. D. 301, and ended December 31, A. D. 300.

Continue counting the centuries in this way, and you find they all close with the centurial years—then ending with two ciphers. The 19th century began January 1, 1801, and will end December 31, 1900. The 20th century will begin on January 1, 1901.

Some people get the matter mixed up in their own minds like the gentleman who writes this to The Blade:

"Suppose a child is born on January 1, 1800. On January 1, 1801, he is one year old and begins his second year. On January 1, 1810, he is 10 years old. On January 1, 1850, he is 50 years old; and on January 1, 1900, he has lived 100 years."

That is perfectly correct. But the inference drawn by the person who wrote it is not. He says:

"From this it is plain to me that the 19th century closes on December 31, 1899, and the 20th century begins with January 1, 1900, as the child born on January 1, 1800, and lives till January 1, 1900, has lived a full century."

The error is this is in assuming the 19th century began on January 1, 1800. It began one year later, and hence ends one year later. The truth of this has already been shown.

Others get themselves muddled because we use the number of the year from its first day, while it is not completed until 365 days later. For instance, this is the year 1899, though we have to-day lived but 49 days of it. One of these stumblers says:

"We had to live 365 days before we could put down one year, so from 0 to 1 is 1 year," and then he goes on to figure that the century ends with 1899.

Another of these who take this erroneous view writes as follows to The Blade:

"We have no right to record any year until it is finished. Evidently in the beginning of time, there was no year until twelve months had passed. Then the year 1 could be recorded. Now, if an eclipse occurred, say six months from creation, it would necessarily be recorded June 1, year 0, A. M., because the year was not full, and could not be recorded."

All this is mere theory, and does not accord with the facts. We began to write this year "1899" on January 1, while it will not be completed until December 31 next. All dates in history are written in this way. There is no "year 0."

The Christian era began with the first day of the year 1, A. D., though that year was not completed until a twelvemonth later. The year before the Christian era was the year 1 B. C.

To follow the absurd reasoning of our correspondent, we should not write this month February, until its last day. But we do write it, all through its progress, and every other month the same—just as we do the year.

By the reasoning of our correspondent, we should not call to-day Saturday, until it is past; nor should we call it February 18 until to-morrow. The absurdity of this position is certainly clear to any person who thinks over the problem carefully.

The amazing thing is that people will ignorantly try to figure out a theory, instead of accepting the fact that all writers who use dates count the years in the way stated in the beginning of this article. To accept these absurd theories would derange every date recorded in history.

Another correspondent of The Blade asks this question: "Was February 18 of the first year of the Christian era in the year 0 or the year 1?"

There was no year 0. From the first day of the Christian era it was the year 1 until the entire year was completed, when the year 2 began. The year was counted as A. D. 1 from January 1 to December 31, the same as the present year is counted 1899.

December 31, 1900, will be the last day of the 19th century, and January 1, 1901, will be the first day of the 20th.

M. EMILE LOUBET.

The New President of the French Republic.

GRASS PAVING STONES.

COMPRESSED INTO BLOCKS OF THE CONSISTENCY OF GRANITE.

Successful Trials of the Invention of Rev. J. H. Aimes, Made in Richmond and Norfolk.

Of all the novel materials which have been utilized for making smoother the rough and uneven path of the truck driver whose duty compels him to steer through city streets a huge and jolting mass of merchandise, that of which a clergyman, Rev. J. H. Amies, of Atlantic City, N. J., is the inventor, is entitled to first place. The material that Mr. Amies proposes to use for paving city streets is common meadow grass. For his paving material he intends to go to the waste meadows along the sea, where grows the comparatively valueless grass which, when sold as salt hay, the only thing that it has been worth selling for, barely pays for the cost of cutting.

This salt and rank growth Mr. Amies intends to compress by hydraulic means into square blocks, first curing it by means of a special preparation of oil, tar and other resins blended, this preparation making the blocks, according to the claims of the reverend inventor, proof against the invasion of moisture and decay. The finished blocks measure fourteen inches by twenty-one by six, and weigh forty pounds per cubic foot.

The blocks can be laid upon any proper foundation in the same manner as are granite blocks, vitrified bricks, or other paving material. Besides being the cheapest, Mr. Amies claims that his blocks are the most durable, that such a thing as a rut or hollow will be unknown on grass-paved streets, that in fact the mineral matter which fails upon the grass roadway will only make it smoother and stronger, the seeming paradox of this statement being supported by the claim that the grass blocks are elastic and moisture-proof, and therefore incorporate with themselves any mineral matter that comes their way.

Mr. Amies says that his paving blocks can be made, by a process of treatment of which he alone possesses the secret, of the consistency of granite, while the slippery surface common to asphalt and wooden paving is entirely absent, and the noisiness of granite pavement unknown, as the resilient surface of the grass blocks offers a velvety surface to the hoofs of the horses that makes their tread a quiet and orderly thud.

Experiments have been made with the grass pavement in Norfolk and Richmond, and the result, it is claimed, has been very successful.

Publishers' Column.

THE WHITE HOUSE COOK BOOK.

Probably the best cook book ever published in this country bears the above title. It is the most popular, has had the largest sale, and is the most practical one for general family use. The price—thousands have sold for two and three dollars each—has placed it beyond the reach of the majority of housekeepers. An edition has been issued in cheap form, with paper covers, containing the same information as the original. It is printed with large type, on good paper, and answers every purpose for use of the ordinary housewife. We have secured a few hundred copies, which we offer to Blade subscribers, postpaid by mail for 45 cents, or we will send a copy free to any person remitting us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year, and asking for a copy of the book as a premium.

WATCHES BY MAIL.

The Blade offers its readers this season a new list of watches at less than ordinary retail prices, sent postpaid by mail on receipt of prices marked below. The list embraces two or three cheap but good watches, and three or four better grade of time keepers.

SPECIAL OFFER NO. 91.

Waltham or Elgin, $4.50.

Either nickel or gilt movement, as the subscriber may prefer. We offer these watches at the lowest prices ever known in the history of watch making. Made by the well known American Watch company, Waltham, Mass., and the great Elgin Watch Co.

The works contain all the latest improvements, 7 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion and is stem winding and setting. Has a porcelain dial with Roman or Arabic figures, as desired. It is open face, with a heavy beveled glass crystal. The case is a high grade of compound metal, resembling silver, and is made by the famous Dueber Watch Case Co. It is of the same material all the way through, and will therefore wear uniformly and preserve its color unchanged.

The price delivered by mail is only $4.50 for a watch that will keep perfect time and last a life time. We guarantee this watch to be exactly as represented.

THE KNICKERBOCKER.

A stem winder and stem setter, having all the modern appliances known to watchmakers' art. The case is solid nickel. It is made on the celebrated thin model plan. Remember, this is not a small clock, commonly called a watch by unscrupulous advertisers, but a highly jeweled nickel movement, made by one of the most celebrated watch manufacturers in America. It is guaranteed by the manufacturer, and if not found exactly as represented, this guarantee is assumed by us. A watch like this a generation ago would have cost $20, if it could have been produced, but the fact is it contains appliances unknown at that time. Each watch has been thoroughly adjusted, and will be set in perfect running order.

Price $2.00

LADIES' KNICKERBOCKER WATCH.

Stem wind and stem set; open face, nickel silver case, nickel movements, highly finished throughout. A perfect beauty. Retails for $5. We send postpaid by mail for $3.50.

WALTHAM HUNTING CASE.

This watch is the celebrated thin model watch—we mean by thin model that it does not bulge the pocket out of shape or give people the impression that you are carrying a clock movement. The case is made of two plates of solid gold, so thick that they will last fifteen years. Between these plates is a thin sheet of stiff composition metal, the purpose of which is to protect the works from damage when the watch is pressed or struck. The ring joints, thumb piece, and all parts subjected to constant wear are solid gold. The works contain compensation expansion balance, safety pinion, stem winding and pendant setting apparatus. The movement is made by the celebrated Waltham Watch Co., perfect in construction and durability. Hunting case only. Price, $15.00.

SOLID GOLD, LADIES' SIZE.

This watch is a handsomely engraved solid gold case, warranted 14k. U. S. assay. We use either Waltham or Elgin movements according to the wish of the purchaser. The works are jeweled and have compensating balance and safety pinion. This watch represents the triumph of modern expert workmanship.

Each watch is a stem winder and setter, and has a tempered hair spring. Price, $20.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that on expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not turnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are not thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1.25
½ dozen teaspoons	.85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2.35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1.35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2.00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1.15
½ dozen table knives	2.25
1 dozen table knives	4.25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

Address with remittance in current funds,

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

READ THE OFFER:

These patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose 10 cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds.) State both title and number of pattern.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

NO. 1518—STANHOPE BLOUSE.

Sizes for 34, 36 and 38 inches bust measure. Fancy silk separate waists are still in fashion for indoor wear. When they are not corded or tucked they are trimmed with velvet or ribbon in a rather elaborate style. The Stanhope blouse is a pretty fashion for using striped silk or satin on the bias. The back is cut plain, and the fronts are plain at the bust and slightly full at the waist line. If black and white striped satin were used the gulmpe, which is faced on the lining, would be of white satin, banded with narrow black satin or velvet ribbon. The trimming on the front would be rows of shirred black satin ribbon; ribbon would also form a ruching at the foot of the yoke. The revers would be of black velvet, as would the circular cuffs. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1153—ELMER SHIRT WAIST.

Sizes for 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. This is a standard and practical design of the ever-popular shirt waist for boys, finished with a neckband for a detachable collar. Cloth and flannel are the favorite materials for cool weather; also heavy cotton fabrics; while for summer weather those made of cambric, gingham, lawn and wash silk are much used. The main feature is to make the belt good and strong, so as to have a good foundation for the buttons.

No. 1152—Phillips Trousers.

Sizes for 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. The trousers are shaped with the usual seams and hip darts. They are closed at the sides and finished with under waist bands, in which button holes are made for attachment to an under waist. Serge, flannel, and all kinds of light and medium weight cloths are used for this model, with the edges simply finished with rows of machine stitching. Heavy cotton fabrics are also desirable for this model. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which is is enclosed.

DO NOT FAIL to give the NUMBER of pattern, and MEASUREMENTS. It wil save trouble and delay.

NO. 1297—LUIS COAT.

INFANTS' SIZE.

No. 1299—Dimple Cap.

Sizes for 6 months, 1 year, 2 years and 4 years. Baby's first coat is quite an important item in every infant's outfit, and this model will be found both serviceable and useful. It admits of perfect comfort and ease, and additional warmth is secured in the full circular cape. This cloak should be made of some soft material, as cashmere, flannel, or camel's hair cloth, lined with silk of some dainty color. If extra warmth is needed it may be interlined with flannel. The cap is a simple, dainty design, fitting close about the face, and is fulled on a corded piece in the back, and finished with a graduated frill. These frills may be bought ready made in any of the large stores, so that any mother need not hesitate to make it. This cap comes in four sizes, while the coat comes only in one. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

This illustration consists of two separate patterns.

NO. 1324—INFANT'S SACQUE.

Sizes for 6 months, 1 year and 2 years. A little, loose-fitting sacque is an indispensable item in every baby's wardrobe for children of 6 months and 1 and 2 years. This tiny garment should be cut amply large at the neck, and with full sleeves, always making sure that the armholes are so large that there is not the slightest pressure from them. All varieties of soft French flannel are appropriated for this sacque, the edges of which should never be hemmed, but button-holed or feather stitched with embroidery silk, to avoid a draggling effect. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

A COPPER TIME.

A well-known clergyman of Chicago, addressing a large gathering of children on the occasion of the last Christmas festival, thought to impress a certain truth on their minds by the employment of a familiar figure of speech. "Children," he said, "when you are having an enjoyable and happy time we will call that a silver time; and when you are having a very tiresome and disagreeable time we will call that—let me se—we will call that a copper time. Now, children, will one of you tell me what kind of a time you are having at present?"

"Please, sir," answered a little girl, "we are having a copper time."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

News of the Week.

BERESFORD'S VIEWS.

HE TALKS IN CHICAGO ON THE COMMERCE OF CHINA.

His Mission to America—Does Not Want an Alliance for War, But to Extend Trade in the Orient.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—Lord Charles Beresford, rear admiral in the British navy, was entertained to-night by the representative business men of this city at the Auditorium Hotel. Sent by the associated chambers of commerce of England to make investigations in regard to the Chinese trade in all its aspects, he has spent months in China gathering information and sounding the minds of viceroys and public officials. Now on his way back to England, with his mind made up in regard to the proper policy to pursue, he is spending time enough in this country in regard to co-operation with England in the policy he advocates. Upon being introduced, Lord Charles said:

REAR ADMIRAL LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

"I did not mean to make one speech in America, because I did not come here to give you my ideas. I came here to get yours. I wanted the chambers of commerce of this great country to let me know their views as to the future development of China, but as you have asked me to speak and entertained me in the kind way you have, it would not have been courteous in me to have refused. May I say that as far as I am personally concerned I am totally unofficial; I have nothing whatever to do with the government. I am merely here to do the best I can for British trade and commerce for the associated chambers at home. But it is impossible in these days for any man who takes up that question not to recognize that this great country and our country are inseparably connected in all questions of trade and and commerce. (Great applause.)

Japan's Interest in China.

"I came also this route so as to get the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce of Japan, and I was amazed to find the immense interest that the Japanese nation as a whole—and I saw all their leading men and, I think, some six of their chambers of commerce—takes in the question of the future development of trade in China. And when we look at the position of their country it is not to be wondered at, because they are rather in the position of England with regard to feeding their people. They have only got one-twelfth of their country that can be cultivated. Their population is increasing by leaps and bounds and they must have an outlet for manufactures in order to make their trade balance, and if China is in any way closed to them they will be in a very difficult position.

"Now, with regard to China. What did I find in China? I found that natural resources of the country are simply enormous. They are perfectly incalculable. The possibilities of trade of the future are limitless, and I don't think that any merchant or any man who understands these questions far better than I do would disagree with me in regard to that point.

"Even now, with the energy and the enterprise of the Americans, I can assure you that we foreigners have barely scratched the surface of that great country with regard to the possibility of trade in the future. There are three reasons. One is the extraordinary exclusiveness of the Chinese, the distrust of the foreigner going into the country. Another is the dislike of the foreigner generally. And the third and most important is the antiquated form of government which is existent in that country. Those three causes really prevent those developments which are only natural in a country that has the same resources as China.

"Now comes the point of the future. Whatever the government may say, whatever the feeling of the Chinese people may be—and we must always respect the feelings of countries with regard to the inhabitants that form the countries—one thing is absolutely certain, that China will be opened up. And I will give you my reason.

Railway as a Civilizer.

"The greatest civilizer in the world is the railway, the line of communication, and various countries—your own country in particular—have obtained concessions for building railways; and I need not tell you when once the American gets a concession to do a thing he is certain to do it. Therefore China is certain to be opened up in the near future by means of these railways. Now, even though China is an empire 4,000 years old, that will not prevent China being opened up. But the whole question is a gigantic problem, and I do not believe that this question of opening up China with regard to the development of trade in China is the greatest question regarding trade and commerce than has arisen during this century or any century preceding it.

"Now comes the point. How is China to be opened up? China will be opened up, and I think you will agree with me that it must be opened up, owing to these railways—how is it to be opened up for the benefit of all nations, for the benefit of the Chinese themselves, in the interest which trade represents, the interest of civilization and the interests of humanity and trade and commerce, but more than all, how is it to be opened up in a peaceful manner with regard to the claims and the wishes of all nations?

Meaning of "Open Door."

"I have a suggestion to make with regard to this. I have said it on all occasions that I have had an opportunity after visiting China, and it was in my head; indeed, I said it in the house of commons before I went to China. My suggestion is this: First and foremost, it is necessary for commercial enterprise and industry and investment that China should hold the open door all through that empire. What is the open door? The open door in China is no new suggestion. It is merely that the treatles as they stand and exist should be held to now at this moment and not altered. What are the existing treaties? They are treaties that no country is to annex territory; no country is to have sovereign rights in China.

"The open door means, as you know, a fair field and no favor to all nations. It is well expressed by one of our leading statesmen at home, Arthur Balfour, as an equal opportunity for traders of all nations. That policy, as you are very well aware, has always been the policy of Great Britain. It is better to be honest and straight—why do we hold that policy? Because we know it is better for us, but it does happen to be a policy that is not inimicable to any other nation and by which traders of all nations can go and derive very great advantages in any country where we hold the domination or where we have colonies.

"Such a policy as the open door must be for the general good of the whole world, but naturally it is for the general good first and foremost of the commercial world. I may say with regard to our policy of the open door, the British policy, we have extensive colonies all over the world. Where those colonies are—I have been to every single British colony—I find American traders, a very large number of German traders, and sometimes we find the British trader say 'Oh, such and such an individual, a German or an American, is underselling my industry.' Well, that is not our business—individual industries.

"Our business is the volume of trade, and it is to the advantage of our colonies if any number of Germans or any number of Americans go to those colonies and carry out their business under the laws of those colonies, which are open to all, because that increases the volume of British trade.

Colonies Are No Expense.

"Now, the result of that policy is that there is not one of our colonies which has cost the British taxpayer one single shilling. They all work on their own lines; they work in their own way, but on principles of honesty and impartiality as regards one nation or another, and that is why they are of enormous importance to us, because they increase our trade and commerce at home, whether it is by the aid of the American, the German or the Britisher is immaterial, but our volume of trade is increased at home by the policy which we carry out with regard to the colonies. Now, it is no use putting forward a lot of theories to practical gentlemen like yourselves.

"The great question is the practical point. How are we to keep this door open? I went very carefully into all the trade statistics. I did not only take the opinions of my own countrymen. I went to the Americans equally, and shall ever be grateful for the way the American merchants received me in China. I went to the Germans and I shall be equally grateful to the Germans; and I went very often to the Japanese.

"But I came to this conclusion, that the opportunities of great trade in China are certainly gathered by these four countries; that is, Great Britain—I should say Great Britain last by courtesy—let me say America, Germany, Japan and Great Britain. My suggestion was that there should be some sort of commercial alliance or commercial understanding between these countries that own the trade with regard to the future development of that trade, and with regard to the security which should extend with regard to the trade that there is at present.

"It may be said to me, why am I not courteous? Why do I put those four countries and leave out Russia and France? I don't want to be discourteous to any nation, and I never am, but I look upon this from a business point of view, and why, when Russia and France have no trade—that is, import trade—into China, why, or am I to suggest with great respect to them that they should come into this sort of commercial alliance with regard to trade with these four countries I have mentioned? possess? That is the reason I have suggested these four countries in the nature of an alliance. The two countries Russia and France will naturally say they have no trade. So they have. They have an export trade.

"Russia has a very large amount of tea and France has a very large amount of silk, but both of those commodities are carried in British bottoms.

Import Trade in Point.

"My point is the import trade—the development of trade in China, must be by import trade to begin with, and that of the four countries that have that import trade should do something in order to keep the door open with regard to the future. Now those four countries also are the four countries that do not wish to have any territory whatever. What they want is simply commercial freedom. I do not want to say anything ungraceful about France and Russia, but in the past history has shown us that they are countries which like territory.

"But the point is that the four countries I name do not want territory. They want commercial freedom, and therefore, in my opinion, they are the four countries that are to talk out what is best with regard to keeping the door open in China.

"May I say this, that with regard to being disrespectful to France and Russia or with regard to being selfish for those four countries, on the face of it I am nothing of the sort, because we can on this principle develop trade and commerce with China and to a certain extent Russia on this principle have trade which they do not possess at present, therefore, I cannot be called in any way selfish on my proposition or willing to take the side of four countries as against the other two. It is merely on the businesslike principle and the practical issue that the four countries which have the trade and can develop the trade should forward it in order to keep the open door for the future.

Plans to Improve China.

"Now, the first essential for the open door would naturally be to keep China in its integrity, and the next essential must be that essential upon which every country exists at the present moment, which is an efficient military and police. It is no use putting out theoretical proposals that we are to reform the finance, reform the government and do all that sort of thing unless you have the first essential in any country, an efficient military and police.

"The danger with regard to China is that China herself, through her effete government, through her old-fashioned system of administration herself may break up, owing to disturbances all over the country. Then those countries that have properties in China and have investments there and have trade and commerce there will naturally do their best to protect that trade and commerce and for the life of me I can see nothing that can occur if there are disturbances in China owing to having no army, no police, nothing that will occur, except the sphere of influence policy, such as France and Germany favor. And that means to close the open door of trade with China."

LEWIS MILLER.

Death of One of the Founders of Chautauqua Assembly.

New York, Feb. 18.—Lewis Miller, cofounder with Bishop Vincent, of the Chautaugua Assembly and known to a large part of the world as a former president of the International Sunday-school Association, died yesterday at the Post-Graduate Hospital, as the result of an operation.

Hood's Pills

Should be in every family medicine chest and every traveller's grip. They are invaluable when the stomach is out of order; cure headache, biliousness, indigestion and all liver troubles. 25 cents.

Life Saved by Swamp-Root.

The Great Discovery That Cures Kidney and Bladder Troubles.

Statistics prove that more people are brought to the grave by diseases of the kidneys and bladder than by any other disease.

For many years medical science has been trying to discover some remedy that would positively overcome these dangerous troubles.

But not until recently was the discovery made. Doctor Kilmer, the eminent physician and scientist, after years of study and research, and after test on test that never varied in the grand result, announced the discovery of Swamp-Root, which has proven itself a most wonderful cure for all diseases of the kidneys and bladder.

While Swamp-Root has proven such a remarkable success in curing kidney and bladder diseases, it has also proved equally invaluable in the cure of blood diseases, rheumatism, liver and stomach troubles, and in the regulation and cure of all uric acid troubles.

Swamp-Root has been tested in so many ways, in hospital work, in private practice, among the helpless, too poor to purchase relief, and has proved so successful in every case that a special arrangement has been made by which all readers of the Toledo Weekly Blade, who have not already tried it, may have a sample bottle sent absolutely free by mail. Also a book telling more about Swamp-Root and containing some of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health, in fact, their very lives, to the wonderful curative properties of Swamp-Root. Be sure and mention the Toledo Weekly Blade when sending your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

This great modern discovery is for sale at most drug stores in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes.

COLONIAL PROBLEM.

Discussed by President McKinley at Boston Banquet.

Boston, Feb. 17.—The crowning event of the day and the principal feature of the President's visit to Boston yesterday was the banquet tendered to him by the Home Market club at Mechanics' hall last night. It was the largest banquet ever arranged in this country, the exact number of persons who were served being 1,919. Besides these there were fully 3,800 spectators in the balconies. The Presidential party left the Hotel Touraine under cavalry escort at 4:20 and proceeded through an immense cheering crowd direct to Mechanics' hall. The reception was held in Paul Revere hall, and for over three quarters of an hour President McKinley and the other distinguished guests stood in line and were introduced to and shook hands with fully 2,500 persons. At 6 o'clock the immense company marched into the hall while the band played.

The President's table was made conspicuous by immense bouquets of American beauty roses and pinks.

Over the stage, under an arch of bunting and electric lights, were large portraits of Washington, Lincoln and McKinley, and underneath was the word "liberators" in large letters.

President McKinley sat at the front of the platform, and among those at his table were Bishop Mallalieu, Mayor Quincy, of Boston; Secretary Long, Secretary Alger, Governor Wolcott, Secretary Gage, Postmaster General Smith, Secretary Bliss, Governor Rollins, of New Hampshire, and ex-Mayor Strong, of New York.

The invocation was pronounced by Bishop Mallalieu.

Governor Wolcott and Mayor Quincy made brief addresses welcoming the President, and then President McKinley was introduced and spoke as follows:

President's Speech.

"Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen:—The years go quickly. It seems not so long, but it is in fact six years since it was my honor to be a guest of the Home Market club. Much has happened in the intervening time. Issues which were then engaging us have been settled or put aside for larger and more absorbing ones. Domestic conditions are improved and are generally satisfactory.

"We have made progress in industry and have realized the prosperity for which we have been striving. We have had four long years of adversity, which taught us some lessons which will never be unlearned, and which will be valuable in guiding our future action.

"We have not only been successful in our financial and business affairs, but have been successful in a war with a foreign power, which added great glory to American arms and a new chapter to American history.

"I do not know why in the year 1899 this republic has unexpectedly had placed before it mighty problems which it must face and meet. They have come and are here, and they could not be kept away. Many who were impatient for the conflict a year ago, apparently heedless of its larger results, were the first to cry out against the far-reaching consequences of their own act. Those of us who dreaded war most and whose every effort was directed to prevent it, had fears of new and grave problems which might follow its inauguration. The evolution of events, which no man could control, has brought these problems upon us.

"Certain it is that they have not come through any fault on our part, but as a high obligation, and we meet them with clear conscience and unselfish purpose and with good heart resolve to undertake their solution.

"War was declared in April, 1898, with practical unanimity by the congress, and once upon us, was sustained by like unanimity among the people. There had been many who had tried to avert it, as, on the other hand, there were many who would have precipitated it at any earlier date. In its prosecution and conclusion the great majority of our countrymen of every section believed they were fighting in a just cause, and as home and in the sea or in the field, they had achieved glorious triumphs. It was the war of an undivided nation. Every act in its progress, from Manila to Santiago, from Guam to Porto Rico, met universal commendation.

"The protocol commanded the practically unanimous approval of the people. It was welcomed by every lover of peace beneath the flag.

"The Philippines, like Cuba and Porto Rico, were entrusted to our hands by the war and the great trust, under the providence of God and in the name of human progress and civilization, we are committed. It is a trust we have not sought; it is a trust from which we will not flinch. The American people will hold up the hands of their servants at home, to whom they commit its execution, while Dewey and Otis, and the brave men whom they command, will have the support of the country in upholding our flag where it now floats, the symbol and assurance of liberty and justice.

"What nation was ever able to write an accurate program of the war upon which it was entering, much less decree in advance the scope of its results? Congress can declare war, but a higher power decrees its bounds and fixes its relations and responsibilities. The President can direct the movements of soldiers on the field and fleets upon the sea, but he cannot foresee the close of such movements or prescribe their limits. He cannot anticipate or avoid the consequences but he must meet them. No accurate map of nations engaged in war can be traced until the war is over; nor can the measure of responsibility be fixed till the last gun is fired and the verdict embodied in the stipulations of peace.

"We hear no complaint of the relation created by the war between this government and the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. There are some, however, who regard the Philippines as in a different relation, but whatever variety of views there may be on this phase of the question, there is a universal agreement that the Philippines shall not be turned back to Spain. No true American would consent to that. Even if unwilling to accept them ourselves, it would have been a weak evasion of manly duty to require Spain to transfer them to some other power or powers, and thus shirk our own responsibility. Even if we had had, as we did not have, the power to compel such a transfer, it could not have been made without the most serious international complications.

"Such a course could not be thought of. And yet, had we refused to accept the cession of them, we should have had no power over them, even for their own good. We could not discharge the responsibilities upon us until these islands became ours, either by conquest or treaty. There was but one alternative, and that was either Spain or the United States in the Philippines. The other suggestions showed, first, that they should be tossed into the arena for the strife of nations; or, second, be lost to the anarchy and chaos of no protectorate at all, were to shameful to be considered. The treaty gave them to the United States. Could we have required less and done our duty? Could we, after freeing the Filipinos from the domination of Spain, have left them without government and without power to protect life and property or to perform the international obligations essential to an independent state?

"Could we have left them in a state of anarchy and justified ourselves in our own consciences or before the tribunal of mankind? Could we have done that in the sight of God and man?

"Our concern was not for territory or trade or empire, but for the people whose interests and destiny, without willing it, had been put in our hands. It was with this feeling that from the first day to the last not one word or line went from the executive in Washington to our military and naval commanders at Manila or to our peace commissioners at Paris that did not put as the sole purpose to be kept in mind first after the success of our arms and the maintenance of our own honor, the welfare and happiness and the rights of the inhabitants of the Philippine islands. Did we need their consent to perform a great act of humanity? We had it in every aspiration of their minds, in every hope of their harts. Was it necessary to ask their consent to capture Manila, the capital of their islands? Did we ask their consent to liberate them from Spanish sovereignty or to enter Manila bay and destroy the Spanish sea power there? We did not ask them, as we were obeying a higher moral obligation which rested upon us and which did not require anybody's consent. We were doing our duty to them with the consent of our own conscience and with the approval of civilization. Every present obligation has been met and fulfilled in the expulsion of Spanish sovereignty from their islands, and while the war that destroyed it was in progress we could not ask their views, for can we now ask their consent. Indeed, can any one tell what form it could be marshalled and ascertained until peace and order so necessary to reign of reason, shall be secured and established. A reign of terror is not the kind of rule under which right action and deliberate judgment are possible. It is not a good time for the liberator to submit important questions concerning liberty and government to the liberated while they are engaged in shooting down their rescuers.

"We have now ended the war with Spain. The treaty has been ratified by more than two-thirds of the senate of the United States and by the judgment of nine-tenths of its people. No nation was ever more fortunate in war or more honorable in negotiations in peace. Spain is now eliminated from the problem. It remains to ask what we shall do now. We do not govern the Filipinos. Congress or seek to anticipate or forestall its action. I only say that the treaty of peace, honorably secured, having been ratified by the United States, and as we confidently expect, shortly to be ratified by Spain, congress will have the power and I am sure the purpose, to do what in good morals is right and just and humane for these peoples in distant seas.

"It is sometimes hard to determine what is best to do and the best thing to do is oftentimes the hardest. The prophet of evil would do nothing because he flinches at sacrifice and effort, and to do nothing is easiest and involves the least cost. On those who have things to do there rests a responsibility which is not on those who have no obligations as doers.

"If the doubters were in a majority there would, it is true, be no labor, no sacrifice, no anxiety and no burden raised or carried; no contribution from our ease and purse and comfort to the welfare of others, or even to the extension of our resources to the welfare of ourselves. There would be ease, but alas! there would be nothing done.

"But grave problems come in the life of a nation, however much men may seek to avoid them. They come without our seeking, why we do not know, and it is not always given us to know; but the generation on which they are forced can not avoid the responsibility of honestly striving for their solution. We may not know precisely how to solve them, but we can make an honest effort to that end and if made in conscience, justice and honor, it will not be in vain.

"The future of the Philippine islands is now in the hands of the American people. Until the treaty was ratified or rejected the executive department of this government could only preserve the peace and protect life and property. That the treaty now commits the free and enfranchised Filipinos to the guiding hand and the liberalizing influences, the generous sympathies, the uplifting education, not of their American masters, but of their American emancipators. No one can tell to-day what is best for them or for us. I know no one at this hour who is wise enough or sufficiently informed to determine what form of government will best subserve their interests and our interests, their and our well being.

"If we know everything by intuition—and I sometimes think there are those who believe that if we do not they do—we shall not need information, but unfortunately, most of us are not in that happy state. The whole subject is now with congress, which is the voice, the conscience and the judgment of the American people.

"Upon their judgment and conscience can we rely? I believe in them, I trust them. I know of no better or safer human tribunal than the people.

"Until congress direct otherwise, it will be the duty of the executive to possess and hold the Philippines, giving to the people thereof peace and beneficial government, affording them every opportunity to prosecute their lawful pursuits, encouraging them in their effort and industry; making them feel and know we are their frends, not their enemies, that their good is our aim; that their welfare is our welfare, but that neither their aspirations nor ours can be realized until our authority is acknowledged and unquestioned.

"That the inhabitants of the Philippines will be benefited by this republic is my unshaken belief; that they will have a kindlier government under our guidance and that they will be aided in every possible way to be self-respecting and self-governing people is as true as that the American people love liberty and have an abiding faith in their own government and their own institutions.

"No imperial designs lurk in the American mind. They are alien to sentiment, thought and purpose. Our priceless principles undergo no change under a tropical sun. They go with the flat. 'Why read ye not the changeless truth?'

"The free can conquer but to save."

"If we can benefit the remote people who will object? If, in the years of the future they are established in government under law and liberty, who will regret our perils and sacrifices; who will not rejoice in our heroism and humanity. Always perils and always after them safety; always darkness and clouds, but always shining through them the light and the sunshine; always cost and sacrifice, but always after them the fruition of liberty, education and civilization.

"I have no light or knowledge not common to my countrymen. I do not prophesy. The present is all absorbing to me; but I can not bound my vision by

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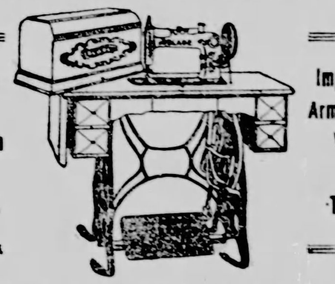

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THE HOUSEHOLD

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON

"FLASHES THE FIRELIGHT UPON THE DEAR FACES,
DEARER AND DEARER AND ONWARD WE GO,
FORCES THE SHADOW BEHIND US, AND PLACES
BRIGHTNESS AROUND US,
WITH WARMTH IN THE GLOW."

THE HOPEFUL SIDE OF IT ALL

I have sometimes wished, when watching the uncalled-for lashing given to a horse, that the animal could, for a brief time, realize his own power and turn upon his tormentor. Before the affair ended, the latter would probably feel as if the world had been turned upside down, and in the turning he was getting the worst of it.

It is true, however, that one sees such irresponsible cruelty far more rarely than in years agone, and it is because public sentiment has demanded a change. The growing disposition to kindness toward the creatures lower in the scale of consciousness than human beings, and yet dependent upon the latter who possess them as pets or servants, is one of the evidences of a real growth toward higher conditions. Brutality, if witnessed, is rarely allowed to pass unquestioned.

Humane societies established for the protection of animals, have multiplied in number and strengthened in influence. There is a growing respect and consideration for life as life, regardless of the point it has reached in its evolutionary struggle towards a higher consciousness.

The name of Geo. T. Angell, of Boston, has become almost a household word in many parts of the country. His little paper, Our Dumb Animals, is distributed by the thousands and is doing a beneficent work. In its columns is to be found some of the best of reading matter for boys and girls, for it teaches them to be merciful to the dumb creatures which enter so largely into our daily lives. Through anecdotes showing their intelligence, their courage, their devotion to man,—who often exhibits more of what are called brute qualities than they,—young people are made to see the wrong they do by ill-treating and torturing the animals which come in their way or are in their power. Through the influence of this little sheet, the vehicle of lessons of kindness, Bands of Mercy are being formed all over the United States, their object being to care for and protect the creatures which cannot help themselves.

That this sense of the sacredness of animal life is growing becomes evident in other ways. I was reading the other day that in Boston where many good things originate, an Animal Rescue League has been started chiefly in the interests of deserted and suffering cats. At first thought this might seem an absurdity, but when a little watchfulness shows that more cruelty is perpetrated upon these animals than many lives can measure, it does not seem so needless. There is a lack of responsibility for these household pets that, once realized, is revolting. They are domesticated in a home, petted, cared for, given enough to eat and a comfortable place to sleep. Presently the family goes away, the house is locked up, and the cats are left to take care of themselves. This is done even in winter, without a shadow of care as to the possible suffering of the homeless creatures. Small wonder is it that boys, with this example before their eyes, have little regard for cat life, or that without hesitancy, they inflict cruel tortures upon what they have learned to believe have no rights which they are bound to respect.

Dogs and horses have, generally speaking, better times, owing, in many cases, to their possessing a money value, but there is a chance for improvement in this direction.

Respect for all life should be a part of the education, commencing in the primaries and carried through to the highest departments. Indeed it should begin with the little ones who are just awaking to the wonders of the world they have come into. Instead of telling them stories that bring the thought of revenge, or of fear, as so many that are related over and over again into their eager ears do, exciting their baby brains, and implanting thoughts which later will grow into evil impulses, let them hear only those that will lead them to regard with respect and kindness the lower forms of life that come in their way.

It is not by any means wholly for the relief of the dumb animals that this is imperative. Professor Elmer Gates, of Washington, has shown conclusively that brain cells are developed in accordance with the thoughts which govern the child or man. These cells, then, are subject to excitation, and they multiply and grow stronger and stronger, until they determine the controlling nature of the individual. This is no fancy but a stern fact that means a great deal to the thoughtful parent or teacher.

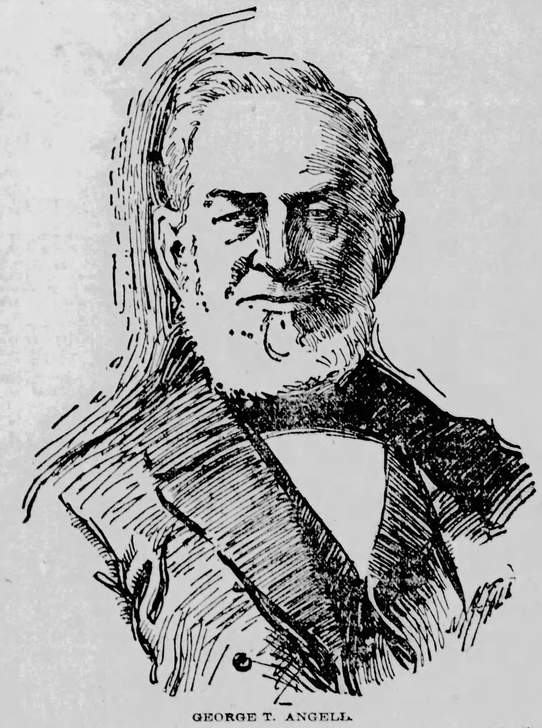
Prof. Gates' experiments are very interesting and ought to become generally familiar. His attention, for many years, has been turned in this direction, but the general public has known comparatively little of his discoveries until within the last decade. He believes that evil tendencies can be wholly cured by a system carefully followed out such as he has outlined in the following paragraph taken from one of his articles:

"I have succeeded," he says, "in entirely eliminating vicious propensities from children with dispositions towards cruelty, stealing, or anger. In curing a bad habit I would, for every evil tendency, image, or craving existing in the same parts of the brain, create a greater number of the opposite kind of memories and keep them active a greater number of times each day, until the old structure (cells) had disappeared and new ones had been formed. This process does not require the assent of the patient any further than to take the course of studies."

As may be seen, it is simply a method of brain-building which he uses, and he believes it can be successfully applied to the cure of the alcohol habit by creating as many of what he calls "morally-functioning cells," as there had been "immorally functioning cells." And he is doubtless right.

In the light of his experiments, it is easy to see why the character of the books which the child reads, the stories which he hears, the pictures he looks at, is of such overwhelming importance. We have believed in the past that they should convey a good moral, but we did not understand that vivid stories of fighting and bloodshed, even when the right is made to triumph, is adding to the passionate brain-cells in the child, and determining his character. Now science has given a reason for what was considered simply a moral or religious sentiment, resting largely upon the basis of "be good and you will be happy." That scientific thought has taken this direction is another of the hopeful signs of the close of the nineteenth century.

EMILY S. BOUTON.



GEORGE T. ANGELL.

President of the National Humane society and editor and publisher of the little paper, Our Dumb Animals, hundreds of thousands of which are distributed weekly and wield a potent influence in teaching kindness to animals as well as to human beings.

DUTY.

It is not one's duty to sadly mar
The perfect web He wrought;
But it is ours to look afar
And seize the sudden thought;
'Tis ours to work, and working, give
The smile that helps some one to live.

It is not ours to blindly sit
And murmur o'er our task:
"The labor's hard, it is unfit!"
More noble 'tis, to ask
For strength to do what best we can,
And strive to aid our brother-man.

The tears may come to aching eyes,
The pallid lips seem still;
Yet from defeat, there may arise
A paean, that will thrill
Through ages yet, the coming race,
Though men have long forgot our face.

—A. L. Brooks, for The Blade.

The Cozy Corner

Mae comes in breathlessly to inquire concerning the duties of a bridesmaid. As she gives no particulars as to the wedding, the editor is "at sea" and cannot well answer her question. Perhaps some one who has "officiated" in this capacity will help her out of her dilemma.

"The Minnesota Boy" must not write on both sides of his paper if he expects to appear in print.

To every one who has sent the words of Bella Mahone the editor returns thanks, and hopes, since the song has been printed, there will be no more copies sent in.

Mrs. G. B. W. has a word for No Hope, and her critics: No Hope, do not look to the Cozy Corner for sympathy, for the men seem to have the preference there; neither to the Bible, for it will only tell you that woman was made for man. I have often heard my husband say, that women have no sympathy for each other, and if this is the case, I am ashamed of them.

Whose fault is it that so many of our sex go to the bad, because we quote Scripture to them instead of being like Christ!

Is it half as bad for her to complain as for him to give her cause for so doing?

It seems the cause for complaint is not always on one side, since a husband, signing himself Honor, tells the Cozy Cornerites of his unhappy life.

I early imbibed the idea that the highest state of earthly bliss was in a congenial, married life. For more than thirteen years I have proved my mistake—in making a choice.

As Joy says, my beautiful theories have not materialized, but I apprehend with another that the most critical period in one's life, is when they are tempted to discard the dreams of their youth.

Four children have been given us; their mother never puts them to bed with a kiss and a blessing, though I have begged her to do so. I often have done so myself, but a father's efforts are comparatively vain without the co-operation of the mother.

She always treats her husband in the same distant way, evidently thinking as "F. F. J. to H. A. F. respondeth: Those tender words and loving looks sound well in fiction, but are rather soft in real life.

I may not be alone in feeling that if she had told me this in the wooing days, years of heartache would have been saved for me, and it would have been far better, too, for her had she said it then.

Far be it from me to charge F. F. J. or the wife who has done many kind things for me, with infidelity. It is her nature; as well ask the leopard to change his spots, or the Ethiopian his skin.

C. R. works out the problem of unhappy marriages after this fashion: A boy sets out at fifteen or sixteen and goes with a girl a few times, and passion comes over that boy, and he thinks he loves the girl, and asks her to marry him. She accepts his offer and they marry without any real love in their hearts for each other.

Soon they grow tired of each other, or he grows tired of her; she can do nothing to suit him; everything goes wrong, and finally he leaves her heart-broken. It all reminds one of an old rhyme:

"Love is not in man; not even in a brother;
So, girls, if you must love, love one another!"

As a desirable change from the pro's and cons of married happiness comes this helpful letter from Minnie.

Sisters: If our editor feels lonely when looking over the Fancy Work column, we should rouse and come to her relief. I am the busy mother of a family of five, and have no time for fancy work as in days of yore, yet I do not repine, and will offer some other suggestions.

If you have a step to go down to a kitchen porch or pantry, have a carpenter make you a good solid temporary step that you can push to one side when you sweep, and you will be surprised what a help it will be.

If you have a door anywhere that seems to be in the way as you work, take it down and replace it with a curtain of denim or cretonne.

Again, if you have a little girl taking music lessons, don't send her away into a half-warmed room and compel her to practice at a certain hour, but bring the organ or piano into the living-room, and she will enjoy her little exercises, especially if you occasionally express your appreciation of them, and her lessons will be learned without any seeming compulsion.

I want to thank Mrs. J. H. B. for so kindly copying the sweet old song, Belle Mahone; it carried me back thirty years, and awakened sweet memories.

Joy has sent beautiful words of consolation. How sweetly she leads discouraged wives to look to God for "strength to live just one day at a time."

Such words, written and sent out to the thousands of Blade readers, will surely do much more good than if spoken to a friend or two at home.

Anita writes: I have been reading "In the Golden Days," a story of England in the time of Charles II., and it makes me thankful that I am living near the close of the nineteenth century, instead of in those "Blessed (?) Days of Old."

But this question arises: "Would our condition have been much better to-day had it not been for those true, brave souls who suffered even unto death for their country's good?"

Clio writes some facts concerning indiscriminate kissing, that, the editor thinks, will meet the approval of many of the Cozy Cornerites:

I have been silent within myself, just as long as I possibly can. Perhaps I should have remained so had not our friend Dorothy presented the subject that she did, so it is to her whom I shall specially address myself, and as many of you as like are cordially invited to listen.

Dorothy, it seems you are not in favor of the manner in which some of our apparently thoughtless sisters hand their kisses around; they need not necessarily be good representatives of true womanhood, and I believe that public opinion voices the same sentiment. Yes, it is time for some one to cry, "Enough!"

I affirm that the kiss should be sacred (apart from relatives) to one only. "I don't care much" crowded the wharves and depots, while Modesty whispered softly, when she thought of the heroes: "Sweet be their rest."

It grieves me not a little to review the fact that many of our girls and women closeted Miss Modesty and hurried to the station to meet passing or returning soliders, and that some of them were kissed in a most undesirable manner; it was only what they might have expected; their presence was sufficient to warrant many insults.

I would not give a second thought to a man who stood by and smiled when his sweetheart, sister, wife or daughter kissed our hero Hobson; he would not be worth consideration.

To be sure an honest man wants to kiss "the dearest girl on earth," and if she be divisable, how can she look him straight in the face?

No, no, dears, I am not a rusty old maid, neither am I in the keeping of one of those much-abused husbands. I am simply a young woman, loyally fighting for the highest standard of true womanhood, and before I hear the scraping of retreating feet, I think I will take leave.

Mrs. T. W. H. writes: I have a number of books that used to have paper covers, but now they have none. How can I make pretty and durable covers for them?

Ma Wise asks for directions for making paper flowers, using wax, and hand-painting them.

Addresses cannot be given in this column, and subscribers wishing to correspond should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for any address they wish to receive.

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

The editor felt sure that she had only to let her friends know that she was "weary to see them;" and she realized to-day that her confidence was not misplaced.

To the editor's astonishment, an "Old Bachelor" was her first caller, and he brought along, in a shame-faced manner, what he called a "concern for holding a whisk broom that a girl I know made for me."

Whisk Broom Holder.

This is made of 42 large rings, or molds, crocheted over with yellow silk.

The illustration shows the manner in which it is put together with the ribbon, which forms the most expensive part of the article.

The second to respond to her appeal was "Aunt Ida," who wrote a pleasant letter and described one of her numerous Christmas gifts, a home-made

Foot Rest.

The foundation is a board, 24 inches

long by 12 inches wide, at each corner of which, on the under side, is screwed a very large hook, similar to those used for hanging articles in a closet, but much larger and stronger.

The rest is padded on top with cotton batting, covered neatly with a piece of ticking, tacked firmly to the edges of the board.

The outside cover is of burlap, embroidered in shaded red wools, the bright shade forming the pattern, while the darker ones are used in filling.

A heavy fringe of the wool is sewed to the edge of the burlap, and the cover is first drawn tightly into position and then fastened with a silk braid, as a heading to the fringe, put on with small brass-headed tacks.

THE BLADE COOK.

Verily to her that asketh it shall be given; witness: To-day's mail brings a note from M. E. P., containing a recipe that has been used in their family for 40 years for making

A Dutch Fuddle.

One cupful sweet milk, 2 eggs, sufficient flour to make a thin batter. Have ready some boiling water with a little salt in it, and drop the batter in the water from a spoon, using a pancake turner to loosen from the bottom of the kettle. Cook until done, skim out into a dish; serve with butter and sugar.

There you have it, and, she adds, "It's good, too!"

Another recipe, "tried and proven" by the same good friend is for

Apple Dowdy.

Slice apples into a deep pie tin, put over them butter, sugar and a little nutmeg. Make a rich biscuit crust, roll thin, making a cut in the center to let out the air. Bake and serve with sugar and cream, turning the pie upside down when it is taken from the oven. Any kind of fruit may be used instead of apples.

Mae asks for a menu for a wedding supper that shall be sufficiently nice, and not too expensive. Who will answer her in time for next week's issue?

LIFE'S GATEWAYS.

Those who have read this book speak of its helpfulness. It can be had now, with a year's subscription to the Blade, by sending $1.25 to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, Ohio. All who can do a sum in arithmetic will see how much they can save by this combination of desirable things.

The Merry Go-Rounds

"Snow Bound." Reviewed.

Brunette opened the subject of to-day's "conversazione" with the following concise sketches of the Poet and his friends who form the characters in the poem.

John G. Whittier was born December 17, 1807, at East Haverhill, Mass., and gained most of his education by reading at home, his special books of reference being the Bible and Burns' poems.

Snow Bound was written to beguile the tedium of a sick room during the lonely year after his sister's death, and was inspired by Emerson's 'Snow Storm.'

It was published in 1866, and the characters are all his friends; his parents, his sisters Mary and Elizabeth; his brother Matthew; his uncle Moses Whittier, his aunt Mercy Hersey, a schoolmaster, a student from Dartmouth college, and the physician, Elias Weld.

The "half-welcome guest" was Harriet Livermore, and the "Queen of Lebanon," was Lady Hester Stanhope.

The description of New England scenery is grand, and the poem is a realistic picture of country home-life in the eastern states.

He grows most eloquent I think in speaking of his youngest sister:

"I cannot feel that thou art far,
Since near at hand the angels are."

Coralyn takes up the theme in this wise:

One beautiful day in June, when the air was sweet with the breath of the brier-rose, a gray haired man of fifty-nine pictured a scene of his boyhood days; the story of a New England storm.

The month is December; the day, Friday, all day the gray sky and east wind foretold the coming storm, and at early eve, the rapid snow flakes fell.

Not until Saturday night did the storm cease, and on Sunday morning, paths were tunneled through the snow to the barn, and the stock cared for.

Early Monday morning they were awakened by teamsters, with oxen coming to "break out" the roads which had been drifted full by Sunday's strong north wind.

At each house an added team was gained, and soon the roads were broken and "the wise old doctor went his rounds," but a full week passed ere the mailcarrier could reach them.

The poet tells us of the lack of reading matter in his home, and of the eagerness with which the delayed village paper was read.

The greater part of the poem, is a description of those "Snow Bound" within the farm house. Besides those of the home circle there were two; the teacher of the district school, and a lady guest, who afterward carried to distant lands the message which so filled her life: "The Lord's quick coming in the flesh."

Around the glowing fireplace, refreshed with apples, nuts and cider, sat this little company of ten, until the bed-time hour of nine.

The father told stories of his early life, and the mother described her dear New Hampshire home.

The uncle added tales of hunting and fishing, and the dear aunt recalled memories of huskings and apple-bees; while the schoolmaster furnished songs and stories of college days.

Beside a table, busy with her work, sat the poet's elder sister, while another, "our youngest and our dearest," sat upon the braided mat before the fire.

Lancelot came in here with his idea of this home-scene:

The fireside scene equals any descriptive poetry in our language. We get the spirit of the poet, and see in our imagination, the house dog at our feet, the cat, the basket of nuts, the mug of cider simmering by the fire and the long row of apples across the hearth.

Suddenly he remembers that he is old: "O! Time and Change; with hair as gray As was my sire's that winter day."

The pensive strain lasts for a few lines, but at the end of the poem he regains his cheerfulness.

Susie admitted that she had never cared much for Whittier's poems, but added:

I am sure that no one can read Snow Bound and not be impressed with the beauty and faithfulness of detail shown in this series of word-pictures of early New England home-life in midwinter.

The snow storm upon which the poem hinges, is first painted for us, our attention being drawn to its fury and its effect upon the life and landscape; after which, we are made to see the interior of the home, and the group around the huge fireplace, where:

"——the red logs before us beat
The frost-line back with tropic heat."

And anyone who has spent a winter evening in the room of an old house, whose only means of heating was an open fire, can instantly see the force of those two lines.

One by one the figures about the fire are portrayed: The gray haired sire, the mother very busy with spinning-wheel or knitting; the uncle; the dear aunt:

"The sweetest woman ever Fate
Perverse denied a household mate."

The sister, schoolmaster, half-welcome guest, we see distinctly, and seem to hear their stories of youth and experience, and as the poet sketches the scene, he seems to realize the change time has wrought in that family group, but is comforted with the thought that

"Life is ever lord of death,
And love can never lose its own."

Perhaps because of something in our own experience, the sketch of the family reading o'er and o'er the almanac, and small collection of books, seems a particularly clear one; and then when communication with the outside world has been re-established, the joy with which the ne'er before so valued newspaper is received.

High School Girl follows with the comments:

Whittier possessed one trait that is sorely lacking in the writings of many of our American authors, and this was his undying sympathy for the down-trodden and oppressed, for honorable labor, and for enforced poverty; a sympathy that runs like a "golden woof thread" through all his productions.

Another excellent characteristic is his appreciation of the beauty of Nature, and his deep, true love for Nature's God.

There are many lessons in this beautiful poem, but the one which seems to me to be the most beneficial is this:

To be contented with our lot in life, even if its pathway seems uncommonly steep and rugged, and our trials and temptations more than appear rightfully to belong to our share; to rest assured that God knows best and to endeavor like our Poet to find grace and sweetness in the very ruggedness.

To endeavor also, to live so, that when the Master calls, it may be said of us as he says of his sister:

"How many a poor one's blessing went
With her beneath the low green tent,
Whose curtain never outward swings."

A Cozy Corner friend, Mrs. Lizzie R. F., came from far-off Washington to add her "faggot to the fire."

The entire poem affords us an insight into the author's inner life, and characterizes his individuality as a poet of remarkable ability, whose keen appreciation of Mother Nature in her various moods and aspects, renders him her fitting interpreter.

In the perusal of Snow Bound, we are brought in contact with the simple life of a Quaker home, where truth, purity, innocence, and all the virtues that go to make up a Christian home are portrayed; and I can not see how one can read its pages without becoming imbued with its spirit, and uplifted morally to a higher standard of ethics.

We learn, too, that although our loved ones are taken, neither change can reach or chance mar the wealth of love they leave with us.

Faith points to the bright shores beyond the River of Death, and Hope sees the stars shine through the cypress trees.

To Pater's Housekeeper was given the closing note in the sympthony, and she struck this "full, sweet chord:"

We reach the threshold, and loitering, take one last look down the gallery hung with masterpieces from a gentle hand and loving heart.

Sunshine glows from this one, and sweet sadness hovers over what; in this, we almost hear the merry shouts of children, while that, is infused with the spirit of another world.

In all, we find the smallest detail brought out clearly, bringing forcibly to mind the old saying: "Trifles make perfection."

We realize that we are about to leave an atmosphere filled with simplicity, trustfulness and peace; an atmosphere that throws the golden veil of love over the common place.

Miss Prudence congratulates those who took part in this Review, on the excellence of their compositions. If space had been allowed, every one could have been printed entire, without correction; and so great was the variance in the points especially illustrated by each writer, that as a whole, the symposium would have contained hardly one reptition. Your Chaperone thanks you, and is very proud of you all.

Week after next will be "Examination Day," and any one who has a short essay to read or "piece" to speak should be on hand. Two school mammas, at least, will occupy seats on the rostrum, and there will be chairs provided for any others who choose to visit the school.

Next week is "Chat Day," and who ever wishes to say anything to some particular M. G. R. friend, is hereby warned to speak quickly, or he may have to wait for another month.

Remember the March Symposium is to be on Wordsworth's "Ode to Immortality."

OUR BADGE.

Every member of the Merry-Go-Rounds should have a badge. It costs but 15 cents now, and the time is not far away when no more can be bought.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

BY GARRETT NEWKIRK.

A house of logs, low, windowless, and small,
Fireplace of stones and clay;
Stick-chimney queer, one southward open door
For light and cheer of day.

A slender woman, young, in homespun garb,
A man-child bending o'er,
Within a lowly cradle gently rocked
Upon the earthen floor.

A cradle rude, God's basket, like the ark
That lay among the reeds
Upon the Nile, filled with a nation's hope
And promise of great deeds.

—The Outlook.

HOUSE IN WHICH ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN.

Thomas Lincoln moved into this cabinon the Big South Fork of Nolin Creek, three miles from Hodgenville, in La Rue County, Kentucky, in 1808, and here on February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln was born. The cabin was long ago torn down, but the logs were saved. The new owners, in August, 1895, rebuilt the old cabin on the original plan. The Outlook reproduces this picture, by permission, from a photograph taken for the S. S. McClure Company and copyrighted by it.

FAITHFUL BRONZE.

A Story of a Dog's Fidelity, as Told by a Small Dog.

"Gladys and Bronze came to us in midsummer. It was Margett's lord's will that they should abide with us; and she strove her best to make them happy. Through the long autumn and winter Gladys was ill, and very restless and very sad and seemed to know no pleasure save in watching the sea in its wrath; but when the spring came, and the white sails gleamed in the distance, and the almond-trees put forth their bloom, and the little blue gentian blossomed in the clefts of the rocks, and the fisher children came out to play on the sands, the young life in her seemed to wake, and to take interest in the life around her. She was always beside the sea—morn, noon and eve, and Bronze never left her side. The fisher-people all came to know her and to care for her very much. The rudest amongst them grew to think it honor to take her out upon the waters, and would hang an old sail upon a spar to shield her from the sun, and deck their boat gaily as they could with sea-weeds and with spear-grass.

"Well, through all the summer it was the same. She spent well-nigh all her time drifting on the waters, or reading and thinking beside the sea. Our home was a little quiet clime, with no harbor or landing-place of any kind; where there was only a cluster of fishermen's cottages; and where no strange ships or strange people ever came. She was never disturbed or molested; and in the sea air, and southerly sun, and the salt-bitten winds she seemed to get beauty so suddenly, such a new, vivid, sea-born beauty, that gave such a glow to her hair, such depths to her eyes, such warmth to her lips; and I think she was happy—despite her sorrow and her loneliness—happy in her freedom, and in her youth, and in her dreams.

"And she did dream; I used to see that in her eyes when she would sit at night by the lattice of her little room, where the moonlight would stream bright as any lamp, upon the pages of her book; and through the open casement, across the brier-rose hedge, and through the boughs of the almonds, she would see the great silver width of the sea.

"Well, all this time Bronze would never leave her. He was at her feet in the boats, at her side in the woods and on the shore, against her door by night, and continually within her shadow in the day. And Gladys clung to him beyond everything. 'You see, he is all I have left, and he, too, knew them,' she would say to Margett. I suppose she meant her dead people. Bronze had never left her, not an hour, I think, save twice in the rough weather time; once when he went to seek for some men lost on the downs above in a snowdrift; and once, on a wild night, when a cobble was wrecked on a rock hard by, and he swam to it, and brought safe to land the fisherman's two-year-old child, who had been asleep in its cot when father and mother and child, and nets and tackle, and all, had been tumbled out into the sea. For these two deeds the people about, of course, thought great things of Bronze, and always brought him pieces of their freshest fish and fattest bacon; and he generally gave it almost all away, letting all the small, famished quarrelsome, unhappy dogs of the village come about him, and share it at pleasure.

"Well, one summer day, in the forenoon, Gladys and Bronze were out on the shore, and I was with them. It was far in the afternoon, a splendid day, with a blue sea running calm. The wind was fresh and the tide was down. We wandered somewhat far out on the beach. The great rocks, that the water always hid when it was high, were so cool and smooth, and brown, and the gray sand between them had been all waved and marked in such pretty fashion by the waves, and all about there were such clear, bright, shallow pools, filled with the curling, sweet-smelling sea-weeds and the many-colored stars of the sea-anemones; and then, beyond, on what was always the land, the great wall of cliff, streaked with many hues, and the woods above, and the little cottages underneath, covered with fuchsia and honeysuckle.

"We wandered far over the beach, so far that we almost reached the lip of the last lazy wave as the sea went out on its southward way, and we spent some time down there on the low sands. Gladys had with her some books and a great osier creel that she used sometimes to cast over her shoulders as the fisherwomen cast theirs, and which she in her ramble nearly filled with all kinds of sea-ribbons, and grasses, and shells, and pebbles, and of the moist brown seaweed, for which she had some household use. She used to look very pretty there, with her head bare to the sun, and the basket slung upon her back, and her cheeks warm and her hands wet with the breath and the touch of the sea.

"The noon tide was very warm, and when she had filled the creel she sat upon a rock to read. As she did so a tiny skiff with one tiny white sail, was putting off from the land. Catching sight of her the sailor with it waded back and came to her. He was full of trouble now, and poured his sorrow out to her. His wife, who was on board a fishing smack that lay off the land some mile or so, westward, was very ill—dying, he feared—and had begged of him, if he could find Gladys, to entreat of her to go and speak to her. This woman was a delicate, pretty, good-living creature, and Gladys had won her heart with many little tender services. Gladys told him she would come at once, and laid the wicker creel and the books, and a little, rough water-proof cloak upon the brown boulder on which she had been just about to make her seat, and on which Bronze and I had been lying. 'Come,' she called to Bronze; but the sailor stopped her. 'I dursn't take him, miss, not for our lives!' he said, earnestly.

"'I can not leave him!' she answered, shrinking back, and indeed she never had left him. He was always with her, whether on sea or land, and they clung passionately to each other. It was very reluctantly that she was induced to leave Bronze. Nothing save the knowledge of each fleeting minute to the sick woman would ever have persuaded her. As it was, she threw her arms about him and kissed him on the forehead; then pointed to the creel of shells and to the red, smooth piece of rock. 'Take care of them, dear Bronze,' she murmured, 'and wait till I come back. Wait here.' She did not mean to command; she only meant to console him by the appointment of some service. Bronze looked in her face with eyes of woe and longing; but he made no moan nor sound, but only stretched himself beside the creel on guard. I am always glad to think as she went she turned and kissed him once again. The boat was the fleetest on the water. When boats leave you and drag your heart with them, they always go like that; and when they come, and your heart darts out to meet them, then they are so slow!

"Bronze never moved, and his eyes never turned from the little boat that went and left him there—the little boat that fast became merely a flash and speck of white against the azure sky, no bigger than the breadth of a sea-gull's wings. An hour drifted by. The church clock on the cliffs had struck four times, a deep-toned, weary bell, that tolled for every quarter, and must often have been heard at dead of night by dying men drowning in the surf. Suddenly the sand about us, so fawn-hued, smooth and beautifully ribbed, grew moist, and glistened with a gleam of water, like eyes that fill with tears.

"Bronze never saw; he only watched the boat. A little later the water gushed above the sand, and, gathering in a frail, rippling edge of foam, rolled up and broke upon the rock.

"And still he never saw; for still he watched the boat.

(Concluded Next Week.)

OUR WONDER COLUMN.

A. Paul's List of Puzzles.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was a military man, born in England in 1728. He came to America with Gen. Braddock, and had a narrow escape in the battle in which that general lost his life. After the peace of 1763 he settled in Virginia, and at the breaking out of the revolution took sides with America against England. By gaining a most decisive battle in New York he became the hero of the American people, but he partly lost his laurels by an unfortunate defeat while in command of the Army of the South. He died in 1808.

2.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 13 letters. My 1, 4 and 9 is the name of a general filling an important place in Havana. My 6, 7, 8, 9 and 5 is another general of revolutionary fame. My 12, 10, 11 and 13 signifies deer. My 12, 10, 11 and 13 signifies rule. Altogether I spell the title of an edifying book written by a prominent member of the Blade staff.

3.—DIAMOND.

X
X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X
X

1—A consonant.
2—An exclamation of surprise.
3—To remain.
4—An American city.
5—A town in southwestern Iowa.
6—A puzzler's initials.
7—A vowel.

4.—ARITHMETICAL PUZZLE.

The upper part of a spliced flagpole is to the entire pole as 4 2-3 is to 10 2-3. The distance from a certain point on the ground to the top of the pole is 80 feet, and the distance from the same point to the spline is 60 feet. How high is the pole?

5.—QUERY.

Who was "Coal Oil Johnny?"

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:

"Weep not that the world changes; did it keep
A stable, changeless state, 'twere cause indeed to weep."

Answers to Puzzles of February 9.

1.—John E. W. Keeley.
2.—Integrity; infinity.
3.—Length of external segment 3 inches.
4.—Words forming square: Relic, evade, Latin, idiot, cents.

Mr. Robert Ingersoll wrote:

"In love's realm husband and wife are king and queen; sceptered and crowned alike and seated on the selfsame throne."

5.—Col. Knight has set into the ground at Haverstraw, N. Y., Mercer, Mass., the largest thermometer in the world. It is 70 feet long, and the object of sinking such a shaft is to take the temperature at that depth. In lowering the instrument it was necessary to put up a scaffolding 70 feet high; the thermometer was raised by means of steam cranes and lowered into the 70-foot opening. The principle upon which it is constructed is the same as the ordinary ones.

Chat.

W. P. E.: Your ornithological and arithmetical solutions do not tally exactly with those given by the authors of the puzzles.

E. E. Burch: Neither of your answers agrees with the one sent by the puzzle's author.

W. S. H.: Your answer is correct.

Marley Cranford: There's a disagreement "betwixt" you and the man who sent the puzzles.

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is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guaranty of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not gripe nor nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company—

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MILES' TESTIMONY.

Commanding General Before Court of Inuiry.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The court of inquiry to examine into the beef controversy, assembled at the Lemon building shortly after 10 o'clock this morning preparatory to its first formal session. The court, in full dress uniform, proceeded to the White House, where it paid its respects to the President and then to the War department, where it called upon Secretary Alger and Maj. Gen. Miles. Meantime representatives of the press who were accorded places in the court room had assembled, and on the outside were many other correspondents and a number of artists specially detailed to attend the inquiry. During the morning several army officers who are in the city as witnesses reported to Col. Davis, the recorder, but remained only a few moments at the room of the court.

The court returned at 12:05 from its visits of courtesy and after two photographers had made pictures of the court, Col. Davis announced readiness to proceed and read the orders convening the court, and its instructions.

Following the reading of the order, which has been published already, Col. Davis read a letter from Adjutant General Corbin in response to a letter from General Wade, president of the court, explaining more especially the lines along which the court was expected to investigate.

The court was then sworn and Maj. Gen. Miles was presented as the first witness. He appeared in fatigue uniform and was sworn. After stating his rank and office he was asked about his statement before the war commission. He said he had made one, and upon Colonel Davis submitting a printed report of that statement, Gen. Miles examined and approved it.

Then he was asked about an alleged interview, which appeared in the New York Journal of December 23, whether it represented completely or in part what he said.

Gen. Miles read it: "I do not recall anything in that interview that had not been given in my testimony and transmitted by my reports. You will observe it contains a number of my declinations to name officers or authorities and refusals to answer. It must, therefore, be incorrect in its representation."

He then commented upon the general slight inaccuracy of newspaper interviews owing to the dependency of writers upon their memories. Hardly a day in six months had passed that an interviewer had not applied and because of the kindness of the press to the army and especially the enlisted men he had endeavored to give them such information as he thought wise and safe but never, he said, with a view to prejudicing any one against any person or department. Finally, Gen. Miles said he did not think the Journal interview represented correctly what was said, because its contents should be taken with all that was said, his silence upon some points and speech upon others.

Then being asked about an interview from the New York Herald, of February 1, he said:

"I have a letter from the gentleman who, I understand, wrote this in which he says he is willing to swear that I declined to be interviewed and that thinking something had been given out, he had proceeded to write what he knew were the facts."

He then pointed out that the interview was erroneous in that where it represented him to have said that he had overwhelming evidence that the refrigerated beef was treated with chemicals, the fact was that his only evidence was what was contained in the reports of officers and statements of men who claimed that the beef had the oder of an embalmed body, that they had seen fluid injected into beef, and other indications of chemical treatment. He declared the interview an erroneous presentation of what he could possibly have said.

Col. Davis, recurring to the statement of Gen. Miles before the war commission, asked him what his idea as to the beef supply for the army was when war broke out.

Replying, Gen. Miles said that, while his attention was occupied with weightier matters of mobilization and equipment of troops, he felt confident that the usage of 100 years would be followed, and cattle herds would be shipped to the army in the tropics and killed there, just as they had been through the south during the civil war, in Arizona, Texas, and in Mexico, where it was so hot that a soldier could not sit upon the rocks. He understood that Cuba and Porto Rico were excellent grass countries, and cattle could be shipped and kept in prime condition. He reviewed his action in cabling the department to send 20 more refrigerated beef to Porto Rico while he was there, finding it possible to use beef on the hoof.

Gen. Miles said that he understood that our troops in Porto Rico were still being supplied with a form of refrigerated beef, although the country was as good a grazing country as any in the world, and the cattle there were plenty, and the Spanish troops drew all their meat supply from this source.

Col. Davis asked if Gen. Miles knew whether Porto Rico exported any cattle.

Witness said it did, to the number of several thousand, and that they were fine cattle. Still, he understood that our troops were not only receiving refrigerator beef at the coast, but it was being sent into the interior.

Sherman Sailed From Gibraltar.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Consul Sprague at Gibraltar cabled the war department yesterday that the United States troop transport Sherman, with 1,800 reinforcements for Gen. Otis, at Manila, aboard, has sailed from that port for Port Said. All aboard were well.

ADMIRAL SCHLEY.

Defends Himself Against Criticisms Recenly Made.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Rear Admiral W. S. Schley having been granted permission to answer the charges recently made against him in the communication recently sent to the senate, yesterday handed to the committee on naval affairs his statement in which he disclaims any purpose of controversy with the navy department.

The admiral says his orders from Sampson on May 19th were to blockade Cienfuegos, which he proceeded to do. He had no knowledge that there were any insurgents about Cienfuegos who were friendly until the Marblehead arrived on the 24th. Even had he had this knowledge on the 23rd of May the surf would have prevented communication. On his arrival Commander McCalla, of the Marblehead went ashore to establish relations with the insurgents, the result of which was made known to him at 3:40 of May 24. Then for the first time he learned definitely that the Spanish fleet was not at Cienfuegos. Within two hours he started for Santiago. "What possible ground of criticism," he says, "adverse to me, there can be in all this, I can not see. I was on the spot, acting under orders which gave me entire discretion, and yet clothed me with the responsibility of going to Santiago, only after I was satisfied that the fleet was not at Cienfuegos." He quotes from the dispatch of Sampson of May 20, in which the latter says Schley should "hold his fleet off Cienfuegos," and adds: "This letter shows that I was expected to hold my squadron off Cienfuegos."

As to the slow progress toward Santiago, on account of the Eagle, he states that she was a part of the force which Admiral Sampson had seen fit to send him, and he had no right to abandon her. The weather also was rough, and not much better speed could have been kept up. He had been ordered to proceed "cautiously." If, however, he had known that the Spanish fleet was in Santiago, no consideration for the Eagle or anything else would have prevented him from getting there at the earliest possible moment, with the larger vessels, but the weather and sea made it impossible for him to do more than he did.

Speaking of the retrograde movements, which the secretary, adapting the language of Admiral Sampson, characterizes as "reprehensible conduct," Admiral Schley says that in forty-two years' service, "never was such language to characterize conduct of mine, and I see no reason for it now."

He adds: "Acting in accordance with my best judgment, in view of the circumstances, without certain knowledge of the whereabouts of that Spanish fleet, after having been informed by the scouts commanded by such officers as Sigsbee, Jewell and Wise, that although they had been off Santiago for a week they had seen nothing of it, and knew nothing of its movements, or its whereabouts, since it had left Curacoa, after having been assured by Sigsbee that he did not believe it was in Santiago, and by the emphatic declaration of the pilot Nunez; and knowing that as the weather then was, it would be impossible to coal my squadron off port, I deemed it best to take the action I did, the final result of which was the location of the enemy's fleet in Santiago harbor." Admiral Schley speaks of the difficulty of doing anything with the insurgents, and refers to the manner in which Lieut. Blue took three days to secure information.

As to the battle of Santiago, Admiral Schley says the facts of that contest speak for themselves. He quotes from his official report to Sampson in which he congratulates the commander of the squadron, and said:

"The victory seems big enough for all of us."

He asks the committee to contrast his reports and those of Sampson containing references to himself, and continues:

As to all this criticism of my course prior to the discovery by me on May 29, of Cervera's fleet whether from Admiral Sampson or the department, none of it has ever been made by either to me and I never heard a word of it from any one until after the battle with that fleet; although more than five weeks had passed since the alleged "Reprehensible conduct," had occurred. Although Admiral Sampson used this language to the secretary concerning me on the 10th day of July (just one week after the battle), he has never to this day, in any manner or to any extent, intimated to me any disapprobation or made to me any criticism of my conduct of the flying squadron.

IN CONGRESS.

Washington, Feb. 14.—In the Senate the McEnery resolution as to the policy of this government in the Philippines passed by a vote of 26 to 22.

The House spent the day in committee of the whole on the sundry civil appropriation bill. Mr. Hepburn, chairman of the interstate commerce committee, offered as an amendment the Nicaragua canal bill reported by his committee. Points of order were raised against it, and the session was spent in hot debate.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Chairman Hepburn's efforts to have the House adopt the Nicaragua canal bill as an amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill failed, not because the majority of the House did not favor the Nicaraguan canal, but because a majority of the members preferred to have the bill defeated rather than to adopt the expedient of overriding one of the oldest and most valuable rules of the House. The chair was sustained, 127 to 109, and the amendment was ruled out. The reading of the sundry civil bill was then continued. The appropriation for the deep water ways commission was increased from $50,000 to $90,000 on motion of the appropriations committee.

In the Senate a bill was reported from the military affairs committee and passed extending the appreciation of Congress to Miss Helen Miller Gould, for patriotic services during the late war, and providing that a gold medal be presented to her by the President. A bill was passed providing for the admission to the naval academy as a cadet of Oscar W. Delgnan, one of the Merrimac heroes. Senators Cullom, Sewell and Teller were named as conferees on the legislative appropriation bill.

Washington, Feb. 16.—After the sundry civil bill had been completed and reported to the House to-day Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, the champion of the Nicaraguan canal bill, moved to recommit it with instructions to report it back with the canal bill incorporated in it. The motion was declared out of order by the speaker, whereupon Mr. Hepburn appealed, and Mr. Payne of New York moved to lay the appeal on the table. Upon the latter motion the vote was taken and the result was 97 yeas to 67 nays.

In the Senate the military academy appropriation went through and consideration was given the naval academy bill. Mr. Hawley reported the army reorganization bill and made a statement as to the necessity of passing it soon. Mr. Cockrell made a statement for the Democrats of the military affairs committee, criticising the army bill and presenting the counter proposition of the Democrats, which is to continue the present standing army to a maximum of 62,000 for two years and the enlistment of 25,000 natives of the several Islands. Mr. Morgan (Ala.) offered the Nicaraguan canal bill as an amendment to the river and harbor bill and had it referred to the committee on commerce now considering that measure. This bill is substantially the Hepburn bill offered in the House yesterday with some modifications.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The House to-day passed the civil sundry appropriation bill, to which it had devoted over a week. No important amendment had been adopted. The speaker's ruling upon the motion to recommit the bill with instructions to incorporate in the Nicaraguan canal amendment was sustained, 155 to 96. The naval appropriation bill was taken up and overshalf the bill was completed during the remainder of the day. There was no general opposition to the measure, although it carries $44,000,000, being $8,000,000 more than the largst naval appropriation bill ever passed by Congress. A bill was passed authorizing the President to appoint five additional cadets-at-large to naval academy. During the course of the brief debate upon the bill it developed that one of these cadetships was to go to a son of Captain Gridley, who commanded Admiral Dewey's flagship at the battle of Manila, and another to a brother of Ensign Worth Bagley of North Carolina, the hero of the torpedo boat Winslow's encounter with the masked batteries in Cardenas harbor, Cuba. At a night session of the House 57 private pension bills were passed, none of special importance.

The naval personnel bill for which the navy department has been contending for so many years, was passed by the Senate this afternoon. It was under discussion for several hours, but was passed practically in the form in which it was reported by the Senate committee. The consideration of bills on the pension calendar was then begun under a special order. Among the bills passed was one providing procedure in certain pension cases. It provides that no pension shall be withheld, modified or canceled, except for fraud or mistakes in facts, and provides a scheme of procedure. The private pension calendar was completed, 74 bills being passed. Mr. Gallinger called up the bill granting a pension to John M. Palmer of Illinois. The Senate passed a bill granting General Palmer a pension of $100 a month but the House in passing the bill reduced the pension to $50 a month. The House amendment was agreed to and the bill goes now to the President for his signature. At 5:17 p. m. the reading of the Alaska code bill was begun, the agreement being that no other business should be transacted before adjournment.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Eulogies upon the life and public services of the late Representative Northway, of Ohio, took place at 4 o'clock to-day in the House. Previous to that the House considered the naval appropriation bill in committee of the whole.

When the Senate convened to-day, bills were passed as follows: Extending the time for the Arkansas & Northwestern Railway company to construct a railroad through the Indian territory; granting an extension of time for the construction of a railroad through the Indian Territory to the Gainsville, McAllister & St. Louis Railway company; giving a preference right of way to persons procuring a cancellation of fraudulent or doubtful allotments to Indians, providing for the acquiring of rights of way by railroad companies through Indian reservations, Indian lands and Indian allotments; amending section 4696 of the revised statutes, so that when an applicant for a patent becomes insane pending the granting of a patent, the guardian, conservator or representative of the inventor shall proceed and obtain the patent and hold it in trust for his estate; authorizing the commissioner of the general land office to cause public lands to be surveyed in certain cases; providing for the construction of a telephone line from Table Bluff to Salmon Creek, in Humboldt county, Cal., at a cost not exceeding $1,500; providing for the sale of the surplus lands on the Pottawatomie and Kickapoo Indian reservation, in Kansas. Consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill was then resumed.

Washington, Feb. 20.—A separate bill appropriating $20,000,000 for payment to Spain under the provisions of the treaty of Paris was passed to-day by the House under suspension of the rules. No amendment was in order, and an attempt to secure unanimous consent to offer an amendment declaratory of our policy not permanently to annex the islands was objected to. The Senate bill to reimburse the governors of states for expenses paid by the states in organizing volunteers for service in the war with Spain before their muster into the service of the United States also was passed under suspension of rules.

During almost six hours this afternoon the postoffice appropriation bill was under discussion in the Senate. Mr. Cockrell secured the passage of a resolution calling upon the secretary of war for detailed information as to the cost of the army under the proposed Hull bill. The House amendment to the bill authorizing the President to appoint cadets to the naval academy was concurred in. The bill now goes to the President. Mr. Frye presented an amendment to the sundry civil bill, providing for the laying of a Pacific cable.

THE NEW MAINE.

Construction Commenced at Craig's Yards.

CONSTRUCTION COMMENCED AT CRAMP'S YARDS TO-DAY.

Fitting Way to Commemorate the Awful Tragedy in Havana Harbor a Year Ago.

Philadelphia, Feb 15.—The anniversary of the blowing up of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor was marked here with the beginning of work on the powerful man-of-war which will bear the name of the historic battleship, the destruction of which did much to precipitate the war with Spain.

The new Maine will be built by the Cramp Shipbuilding company, and at the company's yards at 11 o'clock to-day the first piece of the keel of the vessel was laid. There was no formality in the proceedings but the shipyard was thrown open to the public and a great cheer was given by the crowd as the group of workmen set in place the first steel piece of the keel. Other pieces of the steel keel were immediately hoisted and placed by the side of the first, and thus was started what will be one of the most powerful fighters of the new navy.

The Maine will be a sister ship to the Ohio and Missouri, the contract price for which is $2,285,000. She is to have a speed of 18 knots with a length on load water line of 388 feet and a beam of 72 feet 2½ inches. She will have a normal displacement of 12,500 tons and a draught of 23 feet six inches. Her bunkers will be large enough to carry 2,000 tons of coal and her complement of officers, seamen and marines will be about 600 men.

The Maine's armament will consist of four 12-inch breech-loading rifles, sixteen 6-inch rapid-fire rifles, twenty 6-pounder and four 3-pounder guns and a few smaller pieces. The 12-inch guns will be of 40-calibre and of the new high powered type, designed to use smokeless powder. With a muzzle velocity of 3,000 feet per second and firing an 850 pound shell, each gun will have an energy of 48,000 foot-tons, equal to the penertation of four feet of solid iron at the muzzle.

The builders will endeavor to have the new battleship ready for launching on February 15, of next year and to have her ready for service on the third anniversary of the sinking of the Maine in Havana harbor.

Soldier Sentenced.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Private Hampton Abernathy, Co. A., Third North Carolina volunteer infantry, having been tried and found guilty of manslaughter by a general court-martial convened at Camp Haskell, Macon, Ga., has been sentenced to be dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States, and to be confined in Leavenworth penitentiary for fifteen years.

DANGER IN SODA.

Serious Results Sometimes Follow Its Excessive Use.

Common soda is all right in its place and indispensable in the kitchen and for cooking and washing purposes, but it was never intended for a medicine, and people who use it as such will some day regreat it.

We refer to the common use of soda to relieve heartburn or sour stomach, a habit which thousands of people practice almost daily, and one which is fraught with danger; moreover, the soda only gives temporary relief, and in the end the stomach trouble gets worse and worse.

The soda acts as a mechanical irritant to the walls of the stomach and bowels, and cases are on record where it accumulated in the intestines, causing death by inflammation or peritonitis.

Dr. Harlandson recommends as the safest and surest cure for sour stomach (acid dyspepsia) an excellent preparation sold by druggists under the name of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. These tablets are large 20 grain lozenges, very pleasant to taste and contain the natural acids, peptones and digestive elements essential to good digestion, and when taken after meals they digest the food perfectly and promptly before it has time to ferment, sour and poison the blood and nervous system.

Dr. Wuerth states that he invariably uses Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in all cases of stomach derangements, and finds them a certain cure, not only for sour stomach, but by promptly digesting the food they create a healthy appetite, increase flesh and strengthen the action of the heart and liver. They are not a cathartic, but intended only for stomach diseases and weakness, and will be found reliable in any stomach trouble except cancer of the stomach. All druggists sell Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets at 50 cents per package.

A little book describing all forms of stomach weakness and their cure mailed free by addressing the F. A. Stuart Co., of Marshall, Mich.

FOREIGN NEWS.

RUSSIA AND CHINA

Indulge in a Clash of Arms at Talien-Wan.

Peking, Feb. 20.—A serious conflict has taken place between the Russians and Chinese at Talien-Wan, 300 of the latter being killed.

It is said to have originated in a question of taxes.

An Important Point.

Talien-Wan is an important Russian post near the southern extremity of the Manchurian peninsula, and a short distance east of Port Arthur. It is the proposed terminus of the Trans-Siberian railroad and is occupied by 8,000 Russian troops.

In addition to the garrison at Talien-Wan Russia has 15,000 troops at Port Arthur and several thousand at New-Chwang, a short distance north of Port Arthur.

A week ago the arrival of 9,000 additional troops at Port Arthur was announced, and the same dispatches said 25,000 more were on their way. When the new regiments arrive Russia will have nearly 60,000 troops in the vicinity of Port Arthur and Talien-Wan.

Russia has already practically acquired the Manchurian peninsula, having an area of 360,000 square miles. Of course, Russin's claim to the entire possession is not yet recognized by any of the numerous "treaties" which China has been compelled to sign, but Russia holds the principal ports, the coast line, and main province. She is building railroads through it, and her fleet will use its principal harbor for its Asiatic rendezvous. To all intents and purposes Manchuria is to-day a Rusisan colony.

Russian aggression in Manchuria bore its first fruits on March 27, 1897, when China signed an agreement "leasing" Port Arthur and Talien-Wan bay to Russia. The same agreement granted a concession for a railroad through the entire Manchurian peninsula, from Vladivostock to New-Chwang and Port Arthur, and ultimately to Peking.

Russia's advantage from this agreement is a tremendous factor in the final struggle for the dismemberment of the Chinese empire. Up to the date of its ratification Russia's fleet was ice-bound at Vladivostock the greater part of each year. For centuries she had endeavored to secure a port open to her ships of war the year round. The "leasing" of Port Arthur from China gave Russia that open port. The agreement gives her the exclusive right to use Port Arthur as a harbor for her war vessels, and the fleets of every other power are barred from entrance.

TROUBLE BREWING.

Ameer of Afghanistan Makes a Russian Alliance.

London, Feb. 16.—Lord Curson is threatened at the very outset of his career as viceroy of India by another war with Afghanistan, involving, in all likelihood, a conflict with Russia. The extreme gravity of the situation in Afghanistan will be realized when it is stated that Sir Salter Pyne, who for many years has been the principal European adviser of the Ameer, the chief of all the Europeans in Afghan government employ, and repeatedly the Ameer's envoy to Calcutta and to London, has announced that he will not return to Afghanistan. He was on his way to Cabul, and had reached Peshawur, that is to say, the British headquarters on the Afghanistan frontier, when news reached him from Cabul which caused him to wait there until he could obtain further information of what was going on in the Afghan capital.

This information has now reached him, and it is in consequence thereof that he is at present on his way back to Calcutta, after making arrangements at Peshawur for the reception of the few English people who remained in the employ of the Ameer, and who have now quitted his service.

It is a significant fact that, at the present moment, not a single English person remains at Cabul, even the lady physician, long connected with the Ameer's Zenana, having quitted Cabul in disgust within the last few weeks. She declares that the Ameer is in exceedingly bad health, that he can not live but a few months at the longest, and that his malady has the effect of rendering him intolerably suspicious, cruel and avaricious.

Sir Salter Pyne considers the situation so serious that he has given up all hopes of recovering his belongings from the house at Cabul, which has been his home for nearly twenty years. It is difficult to know exactly what is going on, but it is announced simultaneously from Calcutta and from St. Petersburg that a treaty of alliance has been signed between Russia and the Ameer, who has been until now to such an extent a vassal of England that he has been in receipt of an annual subsidy from the British treasury and bound by treaty to hold no relations with any foreign government excepting through the English government. In fact, he has accepted the same status as the various semi-independent rules of British India.

The alliance between Russia and Afghanistan is therefore a direct violation of the most flagrant character on the part of the Ameer of his obligations to Great Britain, while on the other hand England has a perfect right to regard as most unfriendly the action of Russia in thus inducing one of her vassals to break faith with her.

PRESIDENT FAURE,

Sudden End of the President of the French Republic.

Paris, Feb. 17.—M. Felix Faure, president of the Republic of France, died of apoplexy at 10 o'clock last night after an illness of three hours.

It has been known for some time that his heart was weak but the first intimation that he was sick was given at half-past six in the afternoon when a message was dispatched to the premier, M. Dupuy, announcing that the president was ill. M. Dupuy immediately repaired to the Elysee.

All medical efforts proved futile and the president died on the stoke of ten.

The flag on the Elysee was immediately lowered to half mast and the news was dispatched to all the officers and members of the cabinet.

Francis Felix Faure, sixth president of the third republic of France was born January 10, 1841, in Paris and was the son of a cabinet maker.

He was educated at a private commercial school and was then sent to England for two years to learn the language and to become acquainted with English methods of business. On his return to France he went to Amboise and mastered the business of a currier. When quite young he married the daughter of M. Belluot, an attorney at Amboise. Almost immediately afterward he settled at Havre as a commission merchant and he soon became a leading ship owner.

He became president of the Havre chamber of commerce and during the Franco-Prussian war he held the office of deputy mayor of the city.

During the war Gambetta sent him to England to buy arms for the franc-tireurs and Mobiles. He was deprived of his deputy mayoralty by the Broglie cabinet of 1874.

In August, 1881, he offered himself as a Republican candidate for parliament in the Third district of Havre, and was elected. He was appointed under secretarry of state for the colonies in the Gambetta administration formed in November of that year and held the same office in the ministers of M. Jules Ferry, (1883); M. Brisson, (1885); and M. Tirard, (1887). In may, 1891, he became minister of marine in M. Dupuy's cabinet and was appointed vice president of the chamber of deputies, a position to which he was several times elected.

On the retirement of Casimir Perier, who resigned the presidency, January 16, 1895, he was chosen president by 430 votes as against 361 given to Henri Brisson, the election taking place January 17 1895.

All who came into contact with him have described him as extremely winning in character as well as in appearance. His presence was fined than that of any of his predecessors in the presidency of the third republic.

In 1897 M. Faure went to St. Petersburg to return the visit of Emperor Nicholas, and while there the definite announcement of the treaty of alliance between France and Russia was made. He filled many important offices but in the midst of almost general corruption, he passed unscathed.

M. LOUBET ELECTED.

Faure's Successor Chosen on the First Ballot.

Paris, Feb. 18.—M. Emile Loubet was elected president of the French republic by the national assembly in session at Versailles to-day. M. Loubet received 483 votes, against 270 cast for M. Meline.

The New President.

Paris, Feb. 18.—By profession a lawyer, Emile Loubet's first political position was that of mayor of Montelimart in 1874. He has been a lifelong supporter of that republicanism which defines itself by opposing both extreme radicalism and the imperialism of legitimist pretenders.

He is 61 years of age, rises early and works late, and maintains close affiliations with industrial societies. He is a native of the department of the Drome.

President Carnot summoned Loubet to form a cabinet in 1892 upon Bourgeois' failure to accomplish the task. Loubet was successful. A few months later, in November of the same year, his ministry was overthrown in the excitement that followed the Panama scandals. The immediate issue was Loubet's refusal to allow the cremation of Baron de Reinach's body to discover if the burial had been a sham. Loubet left the chamber with these words: "If you think one can govern that way, govern yourselves. I was interrupted every instant from the right and the left. No government is possible under such conditions."

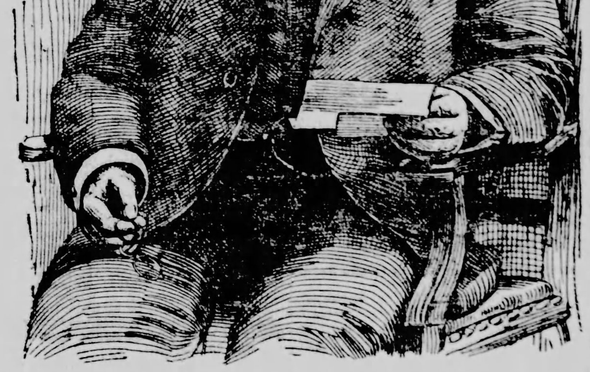
Again he said of the overzeal of the chamber in pursuing the Panama affair: "Doubtless the scandal is bad enough, but the bad judgment of the chamber has fostered erroneous conceptions among the people of its magnitude."

Loubet was one of the four serious candidates for the presidency on the death of M. Carnot in June, 1894, and was again a candidate on the resignation of Casimir Perier in January, 1895. He was elected deputy in 1876 and senator (department of the Drome) in 1895. He accepted the public works portfolio in the Tirard cabinet in December, 1887. Re-elected to the senate in 1894, he presided lemel Lacour as president of the senate by 186 votes out of 243 cast.

Functions of French Presidents.

Emile Loubet, the newly elected President of the French Republic, holds his office for seven years. France, although a republic, does not elect its President, as does the United States. The President is chosen by a vote of parliament. Since the overthrow of Napoleon III. on September 4, 1870, the French nation has been under a republican form of government.

The republic was confirmed on February 25 of that year, and also on June 6, 1875, by an organic law (the Wallon constitution), which was partially modified in 1879. In 1884, in 1885 and in 1889. The constitution vests the legislative



FELIX FAURE, PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

CROSS-ROADS' LOGIC: "WHEN IN DOUBT FOLLOW THE MAIN TRAVELED ROAD."

THAT is what the farmer said when he was directing a stranger on his journey. "When you come to the cross-roads keep to the main traveled way." There's a sound logic in that advice which those who are starting out in search of health might well heed. "Stick to the main traveled road and you'll come out all right."

Many hundreds of thousands of people have marked a path for you to follow. It has led them to health. This path which they have trodden leads to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y., where Dr. Pierce, the chief consulting physician, and his staff numbering nearly a score of experienced and skilled specialists, are every day engaged in the treatment and cure of chronic diseases. Much of the treatment is by correspondence. Any sick person is invited to consult Dr. R. V. Pierce by letter absolutely free of charge and under the promise of absolute privacy.

There is hope for everyone who begins the use of Dr. Pierce's treatment. Out of the many thousands treated, ninety-eight per cent. have been absolutely cured by Dr. Pierce and his staff of physicians. A great number of these were the "hopeless" cases for which the home doctor said nothing could be done. People with weak lungs, obstinate cough, bronchitis, and other forms of disease which if neglected, or badly treated lead on to consumption, have been positively cured through the advice of Dr. Pierce and his staff of skilled specialists, and the use of that marvelous medicine, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

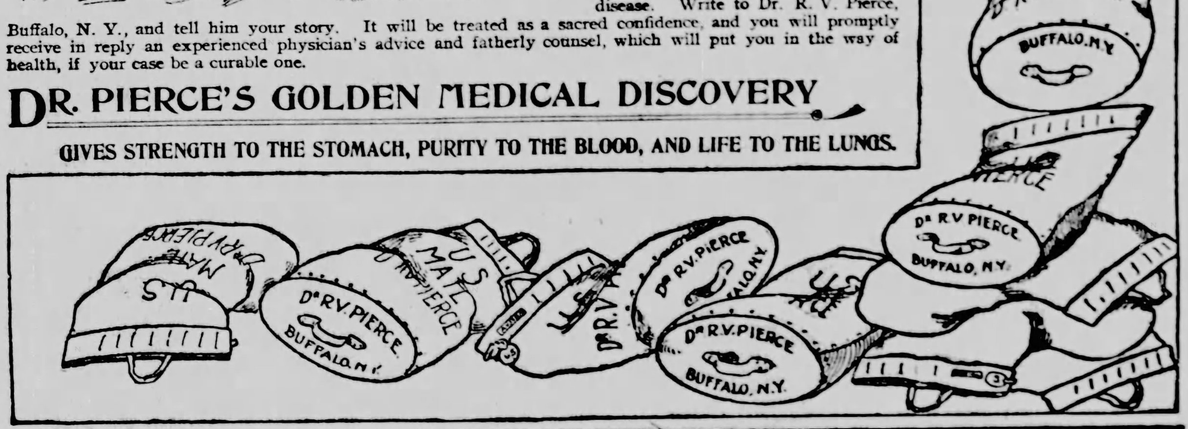
Sarah E. Taylor, of Eureka, Greenwood County, Kansas, writes: "I wish to say to you for the benefit of suffering humanity, I had been a sufferer for fifteen years nearly all the time; and in August, 1896, was taken with severe cramping pain in my stomach. The doctor here said it was due to gall stones. He relieved me for a short time, and then there was a hard lump about the size of a goose egg formed in my right side. It became so sore I could scarcely walk about the house, and I had no appetite. I consulted two of the best doctors in town and they said medicine would do me no good. I gave up all hope of ever getting well again. One day I thought I would write to you telling you of my condition. You told me I had enlargement of one of the lobes of my liver and the gall bladder, and advised me to take your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pleasant Pellets,' which I did according to directions. I had not taken more than half a bottle of each when I began to feel better, and my appetite came back. Now it is a little over a year since I began to do my own work. I have taken seven bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and seven vials of the 'Pellets,' and am stronger than I have been for five years."

"I was taken sick in July, last year, and was not able to do any kind of work until November," writes Mr. Noel W. Orvin, of Langley, Aiken Co., S. C. "Had been coughing up small, hard lumps of phlegm for about a year before I was taken down; I then called on a doctor who attended me for two months, and said that one-half of my left lung was gone, and advised me to leave my home (Charleston, S. C.), and go to the country, but did not say what sort of disease I had. I thought it was consumption, and wrote to you for advice. I took four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which I sincerely believe has done me more good than all the other medicines I have ever taken."

Do not hesitate or delay if afflicted with any old, chronic, or obstinate disease. Write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., and tell him your story. It will be treated as a sacred confidence, and you will promptly receive in reply an experienced physician's advice and fatherly counsel, which will put you in the way of health, if your case be a curable one.

DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY

GIVES STRENGTH TO THE STOMACH, PURITY TO THE BLOOD, AND LIFE TO THE LUNGS.



FREE SILK DRESS

Full 10 to 18 yards of beautiful silk. Black, brown, blue green or pink, in light or dark shades. Have it as a present for the asking. We make our offer of a silk dress free to plain English it, as a commission to send it, with a solid gold set garnet diamond brooch pin which is sold at $3 each. If you will cut this out and send it to us with 40 cents in silver, we will send you one at $3 cash. If you agree to do this, order quick before it is all sold. If by mail, when sold you send us the $1.80 we send you this handsome present exactly as we say. Don't write for it now, make this the time. Remember this advertisement is genuine, we have the best New York name we mention. There is no chance about it, if you comply with the offer we send you the silk dress will be given absolutely free. Fully 10 to 18 yds. any color you want. Dress Trimming and Velvet given. Handsome Gold Brooch Pin. Also a 50 cent box of the wonderful Corn Cure. Address at once: American Medicine Co., Dept. K-88 W. 13th St., New York City.

WANTED SOLDIERS' HOMESTEADS.

The address of all Soldiers who made a HOMESTEAD filing of less than 160 acres before June 22, 1874, no matter whether FINAL PROOF was made or not. Will buy Land Warrants.

Address Comrade W. E. MOSES, Box 867, Denver, Col.

Tales I've Heard Told

"I tell a tale as 'twas told to me."—Sir Walter Scott.

Price, $1 and 50 cts., but To You, 25 cts.

"A book that sparkles from start to finish."
"A collection of good stories well told."
"The book that everyone must have about this season."

[EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.]

"This book is for the pleasant people of the world—may their tribe increase. It will be appreciated by folks who are on good terms with themselves and the rest of mankind, who like the world into which they were born, who believe that life is worth living, and are glad that they live in the greatest country on earth, and in the best age the world has ever known. The best people are those who love humor; the worst, those who indulge in sarcasm. This book is for the former. It aims to present humor without sarcasm—the honey without the sting. It isn't intended to instruct, but to entertain and please. Be good to yourself and read it. Be good to your neighbor and tell him how you like it."

This book sells for $1 cloth, 50 cents in paper. But the publishers of this journal have secured to you the chance to get a copy for the mere nominal cost of 15 cents. The first edition is to be distributed to readers in this way in order to introduce and thoroughly popularize the book at once. Address, inclosing 15 cents,

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WASHINGTON

ARMY REORGANIZATION.

Its Need Set Forth by the War Department.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The War department has made public a statement on the pending army legislation and the needs of the service. It reviews at length the two measures now pending in Congress and points out the advantages and disadvantages of the two leading bills—the Hull bill and the Cockrell bill. As to the former, which has been reported in the senate by Senator Hawley, chairman of the military committee, with but few amendments, the department expresses its satisfaction with that measure and says that the Hull bill with the senate amendments provides only for the needs of the service, on lines of efficiency and economy. It was at the instance of Mr. Hull, prepared under the supervision of the adjutant general of the army, of Gen. Schwan, Col. Carter, Majors Heistand, Johnston and Simpson, officers of long service and high ability. The passage of the Hawley bill would give promotion to officers that have earned it by the hardest kind of frontier and battle service. Otherwise our gallant officers must go without reward beyond a sense of duty well done.

The department says that if the Cockrell bill should be passed it would leave the army deficient not only in enlisted force but without general officers to administer the important duties now devolving upon the government. The bill fails to make any provision for the increase in the general staff, which is urgently called for by the necessities of the situation in our new possessions.

"The criticism," says the statement, "that has been passed upon the department has been the absence of sufficiently trained staff officers. The Cockrell bill would perpetuate this alleged lameness.

"Should this bill be passed into law, the adjutant, inspector, quartermaster, subsistence, medical and pay departments would be left with only the bare skelton of the staff organizations that we have had for the administering of affairs in the United States alone previous to the declaration of war with Spain."

Statistics are given to show that under the Cockrell bill the total enlisted strength of the army within the United States would be less than 18,000, or nearly 4,000 less than is necessary to furnish a single relief to man the guns now on our sea coast fortifications. It would compel the abandonment of all our posts in the interior, would strip the Indian country of troops and leave none to supply the requirement of exigent conditions.

HELEN GOULD

Honored by a Resolution Passed by the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 15.—At the opening of to-day's session of the senate the chaplain referred in feeling terms to the charity which had been brought out by the recent terrible storm.

A bill was reported from the military affairs committee and passed extending the appreciation of congress to Miss Helen Miller Gould for patriotic services

during the late war and providing that a gold medal be presented to her by the President.

The postoffice appropriation bill was reported and Mr. Quay (Pa.) gave notice that he would call it up for consideration to-morrow.

A bill was passed providing for the admission to the naval academy as a cadet of Oscar W. Deignan, one of the Merrimac heroes.

Senators Cullom, Sewell and Teller were named as conferees on the legislativ appropriation bill.

AN EXTRA SESSION.

Unless Congress Passes Army Reorganization Bill.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The President has conveyed assurances to some of the party leaders in congress that he will certainly call congress together in extra session if it fails to pass the army re-organization bill at the present session. In answer to repeated inquiries, the administration has been obliged to decline all propositions looking to the tiding over of the needs of the army by passing a joint resolution, simply extending the appropriations on the basis of the present organization, holding that any device would be utterly inadequate to meet the absolute necessities of the case. The status of the volunteers would, it is said, be extremely unsatisfactory, and there would be absolutely no assurance that the President could retain them in service even when the emergency is great. The same statement would apply to the regular army soldiers who enlisted for the war.

Reports from the senate end of the capitol convey the impression to the officials that the speediest way to secure action upon the re-organization bill is to allow the Cockrell bill to be reported from the military committee, it being understood that this bill commands the support of the majority of that committee. Providing, as it does, for a purely native soldiery in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the measure is looked upon by the war department officials as most unsatisfactory. Therefore, they have urged their friends in the senate, while allowing this bill be reported from the committee to move the adoption of the Hull bill as it came from the house as a substitute.

OUR EXPORTS.

January Shows an Increase Over a Year Ago.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Exports of breadstuffs for January footed up $25,620,440, which is a slight advance on the same month last year. For the seven months ending January 31, the export trade was $168,296,561, which is $15,222,040 less than for the same period of last year. The falling off was entirely due to the war. The export trade in July and August fell about $8,000,000 below that of the two preceding months. It is worth noting that the exports of breadstuffs for the three months from November 1 to February 1, largely exceeded the foreign shipments for the whole year of 1895, during the Cleveland administration. The exports of provisions for last month were only a few hundreds of thousands greater than for January, 1898, the great foreign movement coming from good crops and high prices for breadstuffs rather than meats.

NAVAL CANTEENS

Have Been Abolished by the Secretary of the Navy.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Secretary Long has issued an order forbidding the sale of any malt or liquor on board ships or within the limits of navy yards, stations or barracks, except in the medical department. Thus the canteen aboard ship is a thing of the past.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Nicaragua Canal as a Rider Makes Trouble.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Chairman Burton, of the river and harbor committee, stated to-day that he feared the river and harbor bill would fail to become a law as a result of the action of the Senate commerce committee in adding the Nicaragua canal amendment.

"I am not opposed to the Nicaraguan canal," said Mr. Burton, "but it is a vast project to be approached with due deliberation and not carried along as a rider with perhaps only a few moments consideration. Every item of the original bill was carefully scrutinized by the committee, but it will be impossible if this amendment comes back to give it like scrutiny in the few remaining days of Congress, or to reconcile it with the original character of the bill. Viewed from a practical standpoint, the amendment creates a combination of opposing elements, the opposition to any river and harbor bill, the opposition to any Nicaragua canal, the opposition to this form of dealing with the Nicaragua canal, the opposition of such men as Mr. Cannon to heavy expenditures, and the opposition to the Senate increase in river and harbor items. Altogether I am seriously apprehensive that these combined elements of opposition will defeat the river and harbor bill and the Nicaragua canal amendment as well."

THE CRUISER YOSEMITE

Fought Against Great Odds at San Juan.

Washington, Feb. 17.—A belated war report, which should be of interest to Michiganders, has just been made public by the navy department in the shape of Commander W. H. Emory's account of how the Yosemite, under his command, and manned by the Michigan Naval Reserves, destroyed a Spanish steamer and was in action with three vessels and the Morro forts at San Juan, Porto Rico, for three hours.

This was on June 28. The Yosemite had sighted the Spanish steamer about two miles distant, trying to run the blockade. Commander Emory thought she was the Monserrat. He chased her ashore and set her afire with his 5nells, meanwhile being engaged by a large Spanish cruiser which came out from San Juan, and also by a big torpedo boat.

The large cruiser had 8-inch or 9.2-inch guns, and was enabled to get the range of the Yosemite long before the latter could reply with her five-inch guns. Nevertheless, the latter forced the Spaniard to join her consort under the protection of Morro forts.

Commander Emory says the behavior and spirit of the officers and men was in every way highly commendable.

VOLUNTEERS IN UNITED STATES

Have Been Ordered Mustered Out of Service.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The war department to-day isued the following statement:

"Orders have been given for the muster-out of the following volunteer regiments:

"At their present camps at Augusta, Ga., and Greenville, S. C.:

"Tenth Ohio.

"Third Alabama, Third Connecticut, Fifth Massachusetts, Thirty-fifth Michigan, Fifteenth Minnesota, Fourth New Jersey, 201st New York, 203d New York, First Rhode Island, Second West Virginia.

"At Savannah, Ga.—Third Georgia, Batteries A, B, C, D, Maine Artillery; 202d New York volunters."

This order discharges all the volunters remaining in the United States.

MERITS PROMOTION.

Colonel Miller is to Be Made a Brigadier General.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Col. Marcus P. Miller of the Third regiment of artillery, will be nominated to be brigadier general of the regular army. Gen. Miller commanded the military forces which captured the city of Hoilo, without the loss of a man or an arm, and his promotion is in recognition of his meritorious services on that occasion. The new brigadier general is a native of Massachusetts, and was graduated from West Point in 1858. He served throughout the civil war with conspicuous gallantry, and was breveted three times. Later he served gallantly on the frontier fighting Indians.

ADJUTANT GENERAL CORBIN.

Bill Reported to Make Him a Major General.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The military affairs committee of the House to-day reported favorably the Senate bill to make Adjutant General H. C. Corbin, a major general. The House bill for the same purpose has been reported already, and this action to-day was taken to facilitate action upon it in the House. It is not the intention of Chairman Hull to ask unanimous consent for the consideration of this bill, but to move its passage under suspension of the rules during the last six days of the session.

WITH MEXICO.

New Terms for Extradition Have Been Agreed Upon.

Washington, Feb. 15.—The department of state has received a report from Ambassador Clayton at the City of Mexico, showing that the governments of the United States and Mexico have just agreed on terms of a new extradition treaty to replace that which lapsed about a fortnight ago. The treaty will be retroactive so as to cover crimes committed since the expiration of the former treaty.

LETTERS FOR COLONIES.

Postmaster Allowed Discretionary Power Regarding Rates.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The postmaster general has modified the order requiring the certification of officers in the army, navy and marine corps to secure domestic postage rates to letters sent by men in our forces outside of the country. The modification permits postmasters at the places where the mail is sent to exercise a discretionary power for the first time in identifying the sending party as entitled to the domestic rates for transmission here.

TO PAY SPAIN.

Bill to Appropriae $20,000,000 Approved by House Committee.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The house committee on appropriations to-day ordered a favorable report on the bill to pay Spain $20,000,000 for the Philippines. An amendment declaring the policy of the government toward the Philippines was defeated by a party vote. Chairman Cannon was directed to call up the bill to-day under suspension of the rules.

PACIFIC CABLE BILL.

Favorably Acted Upon by the Senate Committee.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The senate committee on foreign relations to-day authorized a favorable report upon an amendment to be offered to the sundry civil bill providing for the construction of a cable to Hawaii and Manila. The cable is not to be built by the United States, but a yearly subsidy is to be paid by the government.

SPANISH APPROPRIATION

Bill for $20,000,000 Passed by the House.

Washington, Feb. 21.—A separate bill appropriating $20,000,000 for payment to Spain under the provisions of the treaty of Paris was passed yesterday by the house under suspension of the rules. No amendment was in order, and an attempt to secure unanimous consent to offer an amendment declaratory of our policy not permanently to annex the islands, was objected to.

Mr. Wheeler, (Dem. Ky.), upon whose objection the appropriation went out of the sundry civil bill, made the only speech in open hostility to the measure. He declared he would vote against it with great pleasure. He was opposed to it because he believed it wrong in principle and infamous in execution. He was not afraid of giving offense to some effete and decaying monarchy of the old world. He declared that the administration was a soldier of fortune.

Mr. Cannon, concluding the debate in a brief speech, emphasized the idleness of a declaration of policy at this time when our troops were fighting to preserve order. When the authority of the United States was acknowledged, then with due regard to our self-respect, having in mind our own best interests as well as those of the Filipinos, we could decide what to do.

The bill was passed—219-34.

The following members voted nay: Baird, La.; Ball, Texas; Bartlett, Ga.; Bland, Mo.; Brewer, Ala.; Broussard, La.; Brucker, Mich.; Brundige, Ark.; Clark, Mo.; Cooney, Mo.; Cooper, Texas; Cox, Tenn.; Davis, Fla.; DeArmond, Mo.; De Graffenraid, Texas; Griggs, Pa.; Handy, Del.; Hay, Va.; Howard, Ga.; Howard, Ill.; Kitchen, N. C.; McCulloch, Ark.; McDowell, O.; Norton, O.; Risey, Va.; Robb, Mo.; Strait, N. C.; Talbert, S. C.; Tate, Ga.; Vandiver, Mo.; Wheeler, Ky., Democrats; Baker, Ill.; Castle, Cal., Poplists, and Hartman, Mont., Silver Republican.

The senate bill to reimburse the governors of states for expenses paid by the states in organizing volunteers for service in the war with Spain before the muster in to the service of the United States, also was passed under suspension of rules.

BOUNDARY OF ALASKA

Still a Stumbling Block for the Joint High Commission.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The American-Canadian joint high commission after a session yesterday, adjourned to meet at Quebec August 2, unless the chairman of the respective commissions agree upon another date.

The commission first began its labors nearly six months ago in Canada, and has, with the exception of probably a month, been earnestly at work endeavoring to accomplish the object for which it was appointed—an agreement with a view to the formulation of a treaty covering the many perplexing questions of differences affecting the business interests of the United States and Canada existing between them. There were several reasons which prompted the action taken yesterday. On behalf of their respective commissions, Senator Fairbanks and Sir Wilfrid Laurier made the following public statement respecting the action taken yesterday:

"The committee adjourned to meet at Quebec August 2, unless the chairman of the respective commissions shall agree upon another date.

"The commission has made very substantial progress in the settlement and adjustment of many of the questions upon which it has been earnestly engaged. But it has been unable to agree upon the settlement of the Alaskan boundary. This problem has been a complicated and difficult one, but the commissioners, acting in the utmost friendliness and cordiality, have been unable to agree upon a satisfactory adjustment.

"The difficulties apart from the immediate delimitation of this boundary by the commission itself, arise from the conditions under which it might be referred to arbitration. The British commissioners desired that the whole question should be referred on terms similar to those provided in the reference of the Venezuela boundary line, and which, by providing an umpire, would insure certainty and finality. The United States commissioners, on the other hand, thought local conditions in Alaska so different, that some modifications of the Venezuela boundary reference should be introduced. They thought the reference should be made to six eminent jurists, three chosen by each of the high contracting parties without providing for an umpire, they believing that finality would be secured by a majority vote of the jurists so chosen. They did not see any present prospect of agreeing to an European umpire to be selected in the manner proposed by the British commissioners, while the British commissioners were unwilling to agree to the selection of an American umpire in the manner suggested by the United States commissioners.

"The United States commissioners further contended that special stipulations should be made in any reference to arbitration that the existing settlements on tide waters of the coast should in any result continue to belong to the United States. To this contention the British commissioners refused to agree.

"It was therefore deemed advisable to adjourn to a convenient date, in order to enable the respective governments to further consider the subject with respect to which no conclusion has yet been reached."

WAR REVENUE BILL.

Good Showing Made by This Measure, as Revealed by Treasury Statement.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Ever since the war revenue passed, there has been much curiosity at the treasury to know what revenue it might be counted upon to bring in. A new gauge of its powers as an income-producer came into play Saturday, when, at the close of business, the figures for the total receipts from internal taxation for the current fiscal year stood at about $170,000,000. This is as much, in round numbers, as the whole of the last fiscal year produced.

The conditions of the last fiscal year and the present one are substantially alike for internal revenue purposes, except for the war revenue act. Hence all the income of the government from internal taxes to-day till the 30th of June may be credited to the war revenue act. This means four full months and the nine working days left in the present month. The next fortnight is expected to show better returns than the average, because for a whole week the mails have been so blockaded that the internal revenue bureau has had next to nothing to do.

Saturday morning a fair-sized basketful of correspondence confronted the commissioner. Usually his mail has to be brought in in several heavy bags. The blockaded correspondence is expected to fairly swamp the office when it arrives in a mass.

BLISS RETIRES.

Mr. Hitchcock Takes Up the Portfolio of the Interior.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Mr. Ethan Allen Hitchcock, of Missouri, recently United States ambassador to Russia, to-day took the prescribed oath and entered upon his duties as secretary of the interior.

THE PHILIPPINES.

ALL QUIET AT ILOILO.

Insurgent Forces Believed to be Disbanding.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The war department has received the following:

"Manila, Feb. 21.

"Adjutant General, Washington:

"General Miller reports on 14th instant insurgents forces few miles out from Iloilo believed to be disintegrating. Can maintain his position with present force. Business in city being resumed. He has sent up four representative men, officials from capitol of island of Nefros, where American flag raised and American protection requested against small insurgent force in islands. Affairs there and in Cebu, very encouraging. Shall endeavor to maintain and improve present promising conditions. Affairs here quiet. Small insurgent force east of city driven away yesterday with considerable loss to enemy. (Signed) "OTIS."

Firebugs at Work.

Manila, Feb. 21.—The natives of the village of Paco made a bold attempr last night to burn the quarters of First Washington volunteers by setting fire to the house adjoining their quarters in the rear. Fortunately the wind changed at the moment the fire was discovered and fanned by a stiff breeze, the flames spread in the opposite direction, destroying fully twenty shacks and houses opposite the ruins of the church. The incendiaries escaped.

Mysterious signals were frequently made along the enemy's lines, during the night and this led to the belief that an attack had been arranged, but nothing happened.

The rebels are leaving the vicinity of San Pedro Macati in small parties and are reported to be moving toward Singalon.

The United States transport Newport has arrived here from Iloilo with despatches from Gen. Miller to Gen. Otis. She reports all quiet at Iloilo. The American troops there are occupying the suburbs of Jaro and Molo, business has been resumed generally with the outside world, some rice is coming in from the provinces and there has been no fighting since February 12.

All is quiet at Manila. The heat is causing some inconvenience; but, no casualties have been reported.

TO PUSH THE CAMPAIGN.

United States Forces Will Occupy All of Philippines.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The administration has determined rapidly to extend the jurisdiction of the United States over the whole of the Philippine group, acting on the theory that delay in this case is dangerous, and that anarchy and a general paralysis of such interests as the islands support will be brought about through a fainre promptly to replace the Spanish sovereignty over the islands by that of the United States. This decision, involves the necessity of a naval campaign, and this will be instituted as soon as Admiral Dewey receives the reinforcements in the shape of gunboats now on the way to Manila.

GENERAL LAWTON

To Relieve General Miller of His Command.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Brig. Gen. Miller will be relieved from command of the troops in Iloilo before his retirement next month, and Maj. Gen. Lawton will in all probability be assigned to succeed him.

Gen. Lawton will reach Manila about the first of March, and will therefore arrive in ample time to be sent to Iloilo to relieve Gen. Miller, who will be ordered home. By the time of Gen. Lawton's arrival it is expected that Gen. Miller will have sent a force to occupy Cebu, though this is a matter which rests entirely in the hands of Gen. Otis.

In fact, the authorities admit that the entire war program in the Philippines is in the hands of Gen. Otis and Rear Admiral Dewey, but there is a disposition not to make any aggressive movement and to secure American occupation as peacefully as possible.

It is not believed that any difficulty will be encountered in occupying Cebu, or any of the other ports throughout the islands, to which expeditions will be sent in the near future.

Instructions have been prepared for Rear Admiral Dewey, under which that officer will shortly send ships around to the different islands to inform the natives of the change of sovereignty. It was thought that these instructions had gone, but it was said at the navy department yesterday that they had not been sent to Admiral Dewey.

FLEET OF FOUR VESSELS

To Leave San Francisco for Manila Within Two Weeks.

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—A fleet of four vessels will leave San Francisco for Manila within two weeks. No less than 5,500 tons of freight of all descriptions will be taken. The Connemaugh will carry exclusively 300 mules and 2,500 tons of freight, consisting entirely of forage. She will be fitted up immediately with every facility for transporting the mules in safety. She will be ready to sail in about a week or ten days.

The Valencia has been rechartered and will carry 1,700 tons of freight and 128 first class passengers. She will be ready to sail in about 10 or 12 days.

The Portland has also been secured. She will carry 1,300 tons of freight and 100 first class passengers. The Roanoke which is also to be chartered, will carry about 2,500 tons of freight.

Both the Portland and Roanoke will be ready to go in about a week.

About 200 casuals, chiefly recruits for the regiments of regular troops, in the Philippines, now at the Presidio, will go to Manila on these transports.

SHERIDAN SAILED

With One Regiment and Part of Another Bound for Manila.

New York, Feb. 20.—The United States army transport Sheridan pulled out from her pier in Brooklyn at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon on her way to Manila by way of the Suez Canal with 1,835 enlisted men and officers and their wives and families to the number of 90 persons. The Sheridan is considered the best appointed of the three army transports which have sailed from Brooklyn. This latter expedition is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Jacob H. Smith, of the Twelfth United States infantry and all of which is on board. Four companies from the Seventeenth United States infantry and about 75 men left behind from the Sherman expedition complete the military complement. The vessel proper will be in charge of Quartermaster W. M. Couilling and Captain Higgins is assigned as navigator. Without accident the Sheridan is expected to reach Manila in about 50 days. The Sheridan wore her full dress of flags and those on board received a hearty send-off from friends and well wishers crowded about the wharf.

Princeton at Suez.

Suez, Feb. 17.—The United States gunboat Princeton, from New York, January 11, for Manila, has arrived here.

I CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

SENT FREE TO MEN

A Most Remarkable Remedy That Quickly Restores Lost Vigor To Men.

A Free Trial Package Sent by Mail To All Who Write.

Free trial packages of a most remarkable remedy are being mailed to all who will write the State Medical Institute. They cured so many men who had battled for years against the mental and physical suffering of lost manhood that the Institute has decided to distribute free trial packages to all who write. It is a home treatment, and all men who suffer with any form of sexual weakness resulting from youthful folly, premature loss of strength and memory, weak back, varicocele or emaciation of parts can now cure themselves at home.

The remedy has a peculiarly grateful effect of warmth and seems to act direct to the desired location, giving strength and development just where it is needed. It cures all the ills and troubles that come from years of misuse of the natural functions and has been an absolute success in all cases. A request to the State Medical Institute, 668 First National Bank Building, Ft. Wayne, Ind., stating that you desire one of their free trial packages, will be complied with promptly. The Institute is desirous of reaching that great class of men who are unable to leave home to be treated, and the free sample will enable them to see how easy it is to be cured of sexual weakness when the proper remedies are employed. The Institute make no restrictions. Any man who writes will be sent a free sample, carefully sealed in a plain package so that its recipient need have no fear of embarassment or publicity. Readers are requested to write without delay.

NAVY YARD FIRE.

Big Machine Shop Burned in the Brooklyn Plant.

New York, Feb. 16.—Over a million dollars worth of government property was destroyed by fire which started in the large machine shop of the Brooklyn navy yard, known as machine shop No. 28, last night, and the workings of the navy yard have received a severe set back. Many fine models and patterns of battleships, their parts and plans, have been destroyed, and some of them can not be obtained again except by going over the work mapped out in the beginning. The steam engineering department of the Brooklyn yard is principally wiped out, and the work done in that building will have to be thrown temporarily upon the department of yards and docks and that of construction and repair.

The fire was first discovered at 6:30 o'clock. The building was about 100 feet in width and 325 feet long. It was four stries in height and built of stone and brick. The wood of the inside was thoroughly saturated with oil, and the flames rapidly gained headway. The flames had then completely enveloped the great machine shop, and attention had to be paid to the foundry and other buildings. Several times the flames got a start on the foundry roof, but the firemen quickly put them out.

The fire made such rapid progress in the machine shop that by 8:30 o'clock the officials of the navy yard pronounced it an entire loss.

At about 11 o'clock the fire had spent itself. Machine shop No. 28 was occupied by the coppersmiths, the boiler makers, the carpenters and machinists. About 600 people were employed there, but only two watchmen were in the building at the time of the outbreak of the fire. Aside from being filled with a great mass of machinery, more or less used, the building was occupied as a pattern and model shop. In the machine shop very little work was on hand. A number of small orders were being filled for the torpedo boats McKee, Rogers, Foote and Porter.

The records and models of the battleship Maine, which was blown up in Havana harbor on Feb. 15, 1898, were also destroyed.

The loss on the building is placed at $350,000, that on machinery and lathes in the building at $400,000. The cost of the models and patterns is variously estimated, but officials put the total loss at a little over $1,000,000. The cause of the fire is unknown as yet.

STANDARD OIL BOOKS.

Secretary Squire Again Refuses to Produce Them.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 17.—The Standard Oil company again refused to produce its books in evidence in the investigation resumed here before Master Commissioner Brinsmade to-day, and Attorney General Monnett asked that F. B. Squire, secretary of the Standard, be committed to jail for contempt of court.

Colonel Brinsmade refused to send Mr. Squire to jail, but said that he would certify all the records to the supreme court and let the court decide whether a penalty should be inflicted for the refusal to answer the question.

Squire was the only Standard official who appeared at the hearing out of the half dozen or more summoned.

Secretary Squire submitted his reasons for refusing to show the company's books as follows:

1. Because they are demanded in an action instituted against the Standard Oil company for contempt of court, and I am informed that to inforce their production for such purpose is an unreasonable search and seizure.

2. Because the books disclose facts and circumstances which may be used against the Standard, tending to prove it guilty of offenses made criminal by an act of the legislature of Ohio, passed April 19, 1898.

3. Because they disclose facts and circumstances which may be used against myself personally as an officer of said company tending to prove me guilty of offenses made criminal by the act aforesaid.

SWORD AND BIBLE

Presented to Commodore Philip by Sunday Schools of Texas.

Galveston, Tex., Feb. 15.—This afternoon a beautiful sword and Bible, purchased by the Sunday-school children of Texas, were presented to Commodore John W. Philip, who commanded the battleship Texas during the war with Spain. The sword was made by the same firm who designed the Dewey sword and cost $3,500. The presentation was in approval of Commodore Philip's public utterance after the Santiago fight acknowledging the sovereignty of Almighty God. The battleship Texas is here, commanded by Captain Sigsbee and all officers and men attended the ceremony.

SULTAN BACKED DOWN.

British Guns Forced Him to Revoke French Concession.

Bombay, Feb. 21.—The Sultan of Oman has revoked the grant of a coaling station to the French under the British admiral's threat of a bombardment. The British warships Eclipse, Sphinx and Redbreast are lying off the port of Muscat.

The sultan has issued a proclamation to the foregoing effect and he will make a similar announcement in open Dubar. The French consul has entered a protest.

Big Conflagration.

Philadelphia, Feb. 17.—Fire last night destroyed three six-story business buildings on Market street, below Thirteenth, and a number of smaller structures in the rear, entailing an aggregate loss little short of $400,000. The locality of the fire was only a few hundred yards from Wanamaker's big department store, but fortunately the only damage it sustained was a trifling one from water. The At about 3 o'clock this morning while about a dozen firemen were at work in the ruins of the store of the Emerson Shoe Company, which was burned out at last night's big fire, a mass of iron and stone crashed down from the upper floors burying the men beneath it. Three of the firemen were killed.

Sailed for Manila.

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—The United States refrigerator steamer Celtic sailed for Manila via Honolulu, to-day. She carries a large amount of supplies for the United States forces.

IN CUBA'S AID.

Loan of Several Millions is to be Floated.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Efforts are making, with every prospect of success, to reconcile the radical element among the Cubans to the proposition of the United States government to pay the Cuban cause $3,000,000. This is expected to be accomplished through a rather sweeping authorization by the United States government for the incurrment of a considerable loan to make good the deficiency between the sum the United States agrees to pay the troops and the sum the Cubans believe to be the smallest that can be paid with benefit and due regard to justice. So far the proposition has not taken official shape here but the administration has been quietly sounded by the Cuban contingent, who have expressed gratification at the prospects. General Gomez himself is expected to broach the plan formally when he begins his conference with Gen. Brooke in Havana. Gomez arrived today at Matanzas, making his way slowly towards the capital. What is proposed is that the United States shall sanction the floating of bonds by the Cuban municipalities or provinces to the amount of $7,000,000, which sum is to be paid over to the Cuban troops in addition to the $3,000,000 to be paid by the United States. The municipalities are to set aside a certain proportion from the receipts from customs and other sources of national income for the bonds. In addition to this the United States government is to be asked to sanction the redemption out of the customs receipts of the bonds issued in aid of the Cuban rebellion to the amount of $2,500,000. Data, it is stated here, will be produced by the Cuban assembly to show that every cent of this sum was expended in legitimate war expenses.

GEN. HENRY

Threatened to Imprison the Mayor and Council of San Juan.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Feb. 20.—The mayor and a majority of the municipal council of San Juan have tendered their resignations. A few days ago the question of killing cattle for municipal consumption was referred to Gen. Guy V. Henry, governor general of Porto Rico, by consent of all the parties interested. After an investigation General Henry issued an order regarding the matter and the mayor and members of the council declared that they would resign before complying with the governor's decree.

General Henry, annoyed by their quarreling and childish actions, told them that if they did not stop trifling and obey orders he would have them imprisoned. A meeting of the council was held which resulted in the tendering of the resignations of the mayor and council on account of the alleged insult by the governor general and his partisan friends.

The deposed liberals are said to be back of the trouble.

Markets and Crops.

TRADE REPORTS.

Strong Demand for Goods in Almost All Lines.

New York, Feb. 18.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Beyond question, business is expanding, and in many branches it is larger, notwithstanding speculative combinations, which tend to reduce it. All monopolies, or attempted monopolies, stimulate business while they are coming, but tend to stifle it after they come, and the throng of combinations and trusts which have been formed or proposed have given a temporary but very questionable impetus to trade. But beyond the influence of these there is substantial business, due to the unexampled prosperity of a growing population.

The week's output of pig iron was 237,639 tons, against 243,516 January 1, and 235,528 December 1. The average weekly production thus indicated was about 1,000 tons greater in January than in December, and the unsold stocks were reduced 43,671 tons in January, against 37,449 in December, so the apparent consumption in manufactures was in January 1,110,079 tons, against 1,096,176 in December. If the stoppage of several furnaces for necessary repairs at a time when the demand is most pressing has caused some fear of famine, although quite a number of other furnaces have started since February 1, or are about to start. Pig iron has advanced, but the largest consumption ever recorded in any month is in part due to the heavy purchase of products about to be controlled or advanced in price by a combination. There are so many of these in the iron and steel industry that the speculative market does not clearly indicate the magnitude of demand, and disappointment in some branches is not improbable. But the rise of $1 in steel rails, with the entire capacity of all works engaged until after July 1 is not unnatural, nor the strength in plates, for which the legitimate demand is beyond all precedent, and the same is true of bars, the quantity required for cars, railway and agricultural implement works being enormous. In pipe, the association lifted prices 5 per cent with a very heavy order from Indiana gas works, as does the expected combination in sheets. The fictitious demand has caused the rise in grain, for the exports continue so heavy in wheat and corn that the advance of 3¼c. in wheat is abundantly justified, and the rise of 5½c. in corn seems scarcely enough for the occasion.

Atlantic exports have been retarded by the blizzard, but have been 2,295,715 bushels, flour included, against 3,142,057 last year, and for the crop year thus far the exports, including flour, have been 156,787,740 bushels against 143,714,142 last year. When it is remembered that the exports of corn are almost as large as the largest ever known, there is reason for astonishment at the continued foreign demand. That it persists in spite of the strong advance in prices here since September 1 is most encouraging. It is obviously impossible to judge how far it may go. Nor does the foreign demand for cotton abate, though the price has again been raised three-sixteenths during the past week. The exports have decreased some, but the controlling fact is that a remarkable shrinkage in receipts from plantations appears to indicate a smaller yield than has hitherto been expected. It should be remembered that the receipts have been greatly reduced of late. But snow in New Orleans also means failure to save and market some cotton which might otherwise have been made.

There is much more inquiry for wool, and the manufacturers have a large demand for heavy weight goods, but they maintain that they cannot pay prices now demanded for wool, and most of the purchases made appear to have been at some concessions. Sales at the three chief markets were 6,160,200 pounds, which is about the weekly consumption.

The minor metals have been running weak with a reaction in London, although the industries have shown no abatement of demand in this country, and the rise in prices here is largely due to increased consumption.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Feb. 21, 1899.

During the past week trade in wheat has been fairly good. Many reports have been received of damage to the wheat plant, but nothing definite is yet known as to the extent of damage by the cold weather. A feature of strength was the decrease in the visible supply of 1,500,000 bushels, when an increase of 2,250,000 bushels was looked for. Prices have undergone no sharp changes, and prices to-day are about the same as those of a week ago. In corn, trade has been active at times, but stocks have accumulated, so that prices to-day are about a cent lower than for the corresponding day last week. Oats have held well up, although to advance has been established lower seed has sold in fairly good volume. Prices are a little lower than a week ago.

Wheat opened ¼ to ⅝c lower to-day, on disappointing Liverpool cable and few reports of damage to the growing crop. Then came some covering by shorts, which caused a better tone. Next reports that foreigners were selling heavily of March delivery came, and there was a weaker feeling. The continued drought in California had a strengthening influence, but there was no marked strength. A cable from Paris saying crop prospects were favorable gave a declining tendency to American markets, but at no time during the day were the fluctuations wide. Trade was light as dealers did not care to take hold actively on account of the holiday to-morrow.

Prices of wheat to-day:

May—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Toledo	72¾	73⅝	72¾	73⅝
Chicago	72¾	73⅝	72¾	73⅝
New York	77⅝	77⅞	77¼	77⅞
St. Louis	69¾	70¼	69¾	70¼
Minneapolis	70¾	71⅛	70¾	71⅛

At Chicago July wheat opened at 71¾c, high, 73¼c; low, 71c; close, 73⅛c. At New York July wheat opened at 75⅜c, rose to 76c bid, and closed at 75⅝c asked. At St Louis July wheat opened at 69¾c, rose to 70¼c, fell to 70c, and closed 70¼c bid.

Bradstreet's shows: Wheat decrease east of the Rockies, 186,00 bushels; Europe 1,400,000; total, 1,586,000 bushels; corn, increase, 2,121,000 bushels; oats, increase, 1,565,000 bushels.

Paris, Feb. 21.—Crop prospects favorable; tendency downward; farmers selling.

Oats at Chicago for February, 67⅞c; May, 27½c; high, 27⅝c; low, 27⅜c; close, 27⅜c; July, 25¾c; high, 25¾c; low and close, 25½c.

Pork for February at Chicago, $8.35; May, $8.40; high, $8.37; low, $8.35, close, $8.35.

Lard for February, at Chicago, $5.17; May, $5.35 open and high, $5.27 low and $5.35 close.

Corn opened weak on lower cables and large receipts. There was some buying after trade had fairly opened and prices improved. After the bulls had taken all the loss there was a reaction, but on the close prices were a little steadier at an improvement of ⅛@⅜c on lowest figures. At Chicago February corn sold for 34½c; May, 36¼c; July, 36⅝c; high 36⅝c, low, 35⅜c, close 35⅝c. At New York May corn opened at 40¾c, rose to 40¾c, fell to 40⅜c asked, and closed at 40½c bid; July, 41¾c, close 41¾c nominal.

Paris wheat closed 5 centimes higher; flour, 15c lower to 10c higher.

Antwerp wheat unchanged.

Total clearances wheat and flour, 453,000 bushels; corn, 372,000.

Liverpool wheat closed dull and ¼d to ½d lower than yesterday.

J. M. Cronenberg received the following from San Francisco: Still dry; no rain in sight. Oregon and Washington bought here yesterday.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Fair Trade.

Cash wheat ⅛c up, and May and July unchanged at the close of the Produce Exchang to-day as compared with yesterday. Trade was fair, with a steady close.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 73¾c; May wheat, 73⅝@73¾c, and close 73¾c; July, 72c; close, 72c.

Corn Active, Cash Lower.

Corn sold actively, with cash about ⅛c lower. No. 2 mixed corn, 34½c; No. 3 corn, 33½c; No. 2 yellow, 35c, then 34½c; No. 3 yellow, 34c; No. 2 white, 34½c; No. 3 white, 34c; No. 2 mixed May, 34½c.

Oats dull, steadier. No. 2 mixed, 25½c; No. 2 May, 28½@28¾c, then 28¾c; No. 2 white, 30c bid.

Rye dull, steady; No. 2, 57c bid.

Clover Seed sold moderately at a decline of 25c. Prime old, cash, $3.62½; new do., nominally $3.95; March, $3.97½; April, $3.90; October, $4.25. Receipts, 1,800 bags, shipments, 365 bags.

Toledo Produce Market.

With milder weather has come a better market for farm and garden products. The abundance in all kinds of produce will bring their products in more freely. There is a firm market for butter, dairy especially being scarce. Eggs are scarce and firm. Cheese holds firmly at quotations. In vegetables there have been few changes, supply ample. Poultry in fair supply and steady. Dressed meats hold at steady figures. Furs are firm.

Butter—Finest creamery, 19@20c; Ohio and Michigan, 18c; Elgin, 20c.

Eggs—Freshly gathered, 19@20c.

Cheese—Best September make, 10@10½c; October, 10@11c.

Vegetables—Cabbages, per lb., 2½c; potatoes, bu., 45@50c; carrots, bu., 25c; turnips, bu., 25c; onions, bu., 50c; beans, bu. $1.15; celery, dozen stalks, 30@40c; lettuce, lb., 8c; sweet potatoes, bbl., $2.00; bushel, 75c; parsnips, bu., 35c.

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